CO-OPERATION
Between Wage Earner and Local Business Interests Brings Community Prosperity

THE LABOR NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

Justice for the Worker
Constructive Cooperation
and
A Square Deal for the Employer

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IF JOHN L. LEWIS "WALKS OUT" ON A. F. OF L. HE'LL WALK ALONE, IS EDICT

Seven Other Officials, Making Up "Committee On Industrial Unionism", Are Unqualifiedly Pledged to Stand Behind Parent Organization.

Ladies' Garment Workers' President States That While Executive Board of His Union is Pledged to Industrial Unionism, It is Distinctly Against Any Movement Opposed to the A. F. of L., or Designed to "Promote Dualism", and Will Have No Part in Any Secession Scheme.

If John L. Lewis goes through with the threat made this week to take the United Mine Workers out of the A. F. of L., there is no reason to believe he will be followed by the seven other labor organizations whose presidents comprise the "Committee for Industrial Organization."

He is the only one in the group who has even hinted at leaving the Federation. On the other hand, leaders of some of the most powerful unions represented on his committee issued positive statements during the week disavowing sympathy with any move calculated to disrupt the A. F. of L. or promoting any dual activities.

The A. F. of L. Executive Council declared that the Committee for Industrial Organization is potentially a dual movement and asked that it be dissolved.

The Council also appointed President George M. Harrison of the Railway Clerks, Secretary George M. Bugniazet of the Electrical Workers, and President Joseph N. Weber of the Musicians to confer with sponsors of the "Committee" in an effort to bring an end to the controversy over this issue.

At the request of Lewis, the Mine Workers' convention, in session at Washington last week, voted to continue in the "committee" and empowered Lewis to withdraw from the A. F. of L. if he saw fit to do so.

Jumped at Conclusion

Newspaper correspondents and press associations immediately predicted that this action meant the withdrawal of all eight organizations — Mine Workers, Ladies' Garment Workers, Oil Workers, Textile Workers, Typographical Union, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Millinery Workers and the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers.

As a matter of fact, there is nothing to indicate that any of them will follow Lewis if he decides to "take a walk."

President David Dubinsky of the Ladies' Garment Workers in a telegram sent to the Miners' convention and in a lengthy statement given out in New York, said that while the executive board of his union had pledged

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James Wilson Named Executive Assistant of I. L. O. at Geneva

Harold Butler, director of the International Labor Office at Geneva, Switzerland, announces the appointment of James Wilson, former vice-president of the American Federation of Labor.

JAMES WILSON

as executive assistant of the I. L. O. Mr. Wilson has had a long career in the American labor movement. He was general president of the Pattern Makers' League of North America from 1902 to 1934, a vice-president of the American Federation of Labor and a member of its Executive Council from 1924 to 1934, and fraternal delegate from the A. F. of L. to the British Trades Union Congress in 1906.

He was sent by President Wilson to Europe as chairman of the Labor Mission to Great Britain and France in March, 1918, and as chairman of the Labor Mission to Italy in August, 1918. He was named by President Roosevelt as labor adviser to the World Mone-

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Secretary Perkins Urges Labor Dept. In Every State

Columbus, S. C., Jan. 29 (I.N.S.)—Secretary of Labor Perkins told South Carolina lawmakers every state should have a labor department empowered to enforce labor laws, conduct investigations and to check employers to keep adequate records.

She interrupted the Regional Labor Conference, a meeting called "to discuss state labor and social security legislation, to make a direct appeal to legislators.

"The time has come for every state to have a basic department headed by an officer whose duty it is to investigate problems of working people and enforce the safeguards which have been provided by the legislature," she said.

Labor Party Favored But A. F. of L. Policy Will Rule This Year

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WASHINGTON

On February 22nd, this great nation will reverently pause to celebrate the birthday of "the greatest American of them all" —George Washington, soldier, statesman and First President of the United States of America.

To the serious-minded citizen, it will ever be a matter of heartfelt gratitude that the history of the new Republic began with a man like Washington at its head. He came naturally to that office, the highest within the gift of a grateful people, not through any self-seeking on his part, but from the sheer logic of the necessity of self-preservation on the part of the war-torn nation. In common peace and concord, not in bloody strife and revolution with rival contenders, did Washington come to occupy his high station. That fact marked a happy augury for the perpetuity of the Republic.

Against [illegible] courage, high sense of personal honor and flaming patriotism, not even the ravens of detraction dare croak. His spirit broods over the Potomac today—benevolently, paternally, protectingly. We shall emerge from our present travail the more rapidly as we recognize, and relive, the high principles and ideals of the Father of His Country!

Maine Textile Council, at Waterville Convention on February 8th, Discussed U. T. W. of A. Political Policy But Defers Action Because of Lack of Time.

Cost and Time Consumed in Organizing New Party Given Serious Consideration by Delegates, Who Agree to Continue Their Support to Candidates Friendly to Labor—Townsend Plan Growing in Popularity Among Members of Trade Unions, and Indications Are That Many Adherants Will be Candidates for Office at Primaries.

The political pot boiled to a high degree at the meeting of the Maine Textile Council, held in Waterville on Saturday, February 8th, and present indications are there will be a goodly number of members of trade unions who will be candidates for offices at the June primaries.

Your correspondent was somewhat amazed over the growing popularity of the Townsend Plan, as was expressed in discussion at the convention, and it is this element, it is thought—who will make up the great portion of candidates for various offices at the primaries.

Much of the discussion, from a political standpoint was devoted to plans for starting a Labor party, this, of course, being in accordance with action taken by the United Textile Workers of America at its last general convention, and reaffirmed on several occasions by the Executive Council of that organization, expressing the belief that much difficulty will be found in securing Labor legislation until such time as Labor centers its activities in a political party of its own.

But, as pointed out by several delegates, a Labor party cannot be formed over-night; it means a year or more before anything like constructive work can be accomplished, not counting the cost, which would be tremendous, and especially in Maine, where it becomes necessary to cover so much ground.

Defer Starting of Labor Party

There were other objections, mainly the fact that it would be difficult to start a Labor party until all crafts became interested. Today, it was said, the Textile Workers stand alone as an organization in this State which has gone on record in favor of a Labor party. The State Branch, A. F. of L., it was said, with its 125 or more affiliated Central bodies, building trades councils, union label sections and Jo-

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WHY PAY PENSIONS OF $200 PER MONTH TO AGED PEOPLE OVER SIXTY YEARS OF AGE UNDER TOWNSEND PLAN?

(From the Terre Haute Advocate)

The primary reason for $200 per month is not just to give the people over 60 years "plenty of money" to spend, but rather to put sufficient buying power into the hands of the masses so that the spending by these elders will create jobs for the youth, and those under 60 years of age.

Statisticians estimate that at January, 1935, levels it required approximately $1800 per annum or $150 per month continuously invested in the average line of industry to supply a well paid job for one worker. All prices were below normal in January, 1935; therefore, it is assumed that with business on a high level—would be the case after enacting the Townsend Plan—the amount of retail expenditures necessary to create a well-paid job for one worker might advance to even $200 per month, or $2400 per annum.

The first thought is to cure the economic evil of unemployment, but while doing so also cure the evil of allowing "want and old age", by using the aged as a means of equally distributing this new buying power to every nook and corner of our country.

There is no argument against the amount which the Townsend Plan provides as a pension. These elderly people have been the ones who have produced, during their productive years, the wealth of this nation. Millions of them have been thrifty and saved and invested in approved securities or deposited their savings in banks. These investments and savings have been wiped out, through no fault of their own. This great wealth which they have produced has not been destroyed. It is here in the country, although they have been deprived of its benefits.

Now, in their old age, they are willing to sufficient to maintain them in comfort in their declining years. The use of the money is all that they ask. They do not care to hoard or invest it. Passing through their hands it will supply their needs and return to the communities from whence it was collected in a like flow, to rain returning to the rivers, lakes and ocean after it has served its purpose.

This mighty flow of money will assure business stability, eliminate fear of launching new works and enterprises and by retiring the old people, give opportunity and work in all fields for the youth of the nation. If the pension was fixed at $30 per month it would only keep the old people alive—in their misery—and would create no buying power or new business. We are now feeding twenty million people with government funds. But just feeding people does not give them buying power nor ability to enjoy the abundance which this machine age can produce for all.

PEACE AND WAR PROPAGANDA; CONGRESS HAS NO POWER TO ABRIDGE FREE SPEECH OR CURTAIL FREE PRESS

The National Council for the Prevention of War, with headquarters at Washington, D. C., is calling attention to pending legislation in Congress which, it is claimed, menaces the freedom of the citizens, insofar as this applies to the Constitutional rights of free speech and a free press. Such fears are largely groundless, for Congress has no power to abridge constitutional guarantees. To do so would only be to legislate in vain. An aim to suppress Communism is the basic purpose of the bill.

One part of the proposed legislation has to do with inciting to insubordination the members of the armed forces of the Army and Navy. This contingency has been provided for, in present existing laws, for over a century. It should also be remembered that in times of war, all fundamental guarantees are suspended.

With regard to searches and seizures of papers and effects, this also, is covered by Constitutional guarantees, and again Congress has no power to override that fundamental law.

Comparison has been made with the United States and Germany, under the present Hitler regime. Germany is under a dictatorship, pure and simple, as are Italy and Russia. The United States is still under Constitutional government, with a Congress duly functioning.

In its elaboration of the legislative situation, through its publicity agency, the National Council has this to say on the basic points under discussion:

Military Disaffection

"The Hearst papers have opened their annual drive on those who oppose militarism and its inevitable fascism in this country. The recent full-page editorials in Hearst newspapers, purportedly exhibiting confidential information regarding the activities of peace organizations and branding them as communistic, clearly states the first time the object of our Army and Navy intelligence service.

"To quote Mr. Hearst directly, 'The Bureau of Naval Intelligences' most important function is to uncover subversive propaganda." In this statement the Hearst press reveals to the public the background of the fascistic drive which has been carefully formulated during the past year.

"The Tydings-McCormack Military Disaffection Bill, S. 2253, which seeks to ban any criticism of the Army and Navy or their appropriations, was slipped through a somnolent Senate one day last Summer. It was reported out of the Military Affairs Committee in the House. Its true implications were brought to light for the first time by the minority report of Congressmen Maverick and Kvale. Vigorous opposition during the remainder of the session blocked the passage of

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Phila. Mayor Outlaws Police Protection for Strikebreakers

Mayor Wilson, in Approving Mass Picketing, Said There Will Be No Interference by Police So Long as There Is No Law Violation—Says Labor Supply is Sufficient to Take Care of Philadelphia's Present Needs.

Philadelphia, Feb. 15 (AFL)—Approval of mass picketing and abolishing police protection for strikebreakers are outstanding features of the labor policy announced by S. D. Wilson, Philadelphia's new mayor.

Under the municipal governments which preceded Mayor Wilson, mass picketing was proscribed. Several times in recent years the police were ordered to break up picket lines, and frequently the number of strikers allowed to picket a struck plant was arbitrarily limited.

Following a conference with his labor committee, consisting of 10 trade union officials, relative to plans for mediating a threatened strike of 800 window cleaners, Mayor Wilson made the following announcement:

"In accordance with my labor policy, the Superintendent of Police was notified that hereafter during strikes no permits will be required by the strikers for peaceful picketing.

"Mass picketing will be permitted and there will be no interference by police so long as there is no violation of the law by disturbance or other means.

"We hope to anticipate strikes in the future so they will not reach the stage where they will be difficult to adjust.

"From now on no police protection will be given strikebreakers brought into Philadelphia from New Jersey or any other place. We have a big enough labor supply, and good enough to take care of our needs. Neither will police interfere in any peaceful strike, either on behalf of labor or employer.

"The practice of providing police guards to ride on trucks with strikebreakers is abolished.

CONVENTION CALL ISSUED BY R. I. STATE BRANCH TO DETERMINE POLICY OF A LABOR PARTY, TO BE HELD MARCH 8

Providence, R. I., February 15.—Sunday, March 8th, at 11 a. m., has been set as the date for local unions in Rhode Island to determine as to whether or not it is desired to form a Labor Party in this State.

This will be done at a convention to be held in Eagles' Hall, Providence, the proceedings to start at 11 o'clock and all to be completed in a single session.

The call for this convention, which was sent to all local unions affiliated with international unions making part of the American Federation of Labor, was issued by the Rhode Island State Federation of Labor in accordance with instructions by the October convention, and is for the purpose of determining as to whether or not it is desirous of forming a Labor Party in Rhode Island.

The basis of representation will be as follows:

All local unions not affiliated locally with the State Branch but whose International is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, will be allowed one delegate.

All local unions affiliated with the Rhode Island State Branch will be allowed representation based on the per capita tax paid at the regular conventions.

All credentials must be returned to the State Branch not later than five days preceding the convention.

Accompanying the call is a questionnaire which calls for information as to what action the local union has taken regarding the formation of a Labor Party; if the local is planning to send delegates; if delegates will be instructed with power to act; number of paid-up members, and other details.

The call is sign by all officers of the Federation.

President of Railway Carmen Fills Place Vacated by Lewis

Miami, Fla., Feb. 15 (AFL)—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor elected Felix H. Knight, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America, to membership in the Council to succeed John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, who resigned last November shortly after he was made eleventh vice-president by the 1935 convention of the Federation.

Mr. Knight telephoned his acceptance of the office from his headquarters in Kansas City and arrived here to participate in the second week's session of the Council's quarterly meeting.

House Group Shows Determination to Curb U. S. Supreme Court

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15 (AFL)—The evident determination of the United States Supreme Court to interpret the Constitution so narrowly as to deprive Congress of all power to promote the general interest is sharply challenged by a number of Congressmen.

A group of House members have already considered a bill introduced by Representative Cross of Texas prohibiting the lower courts from rendering decisions on the constitutionality of Federal laws and barring the Supreme Court from considering the question of constitutionality in any case reaching it on appeal.

A number of Congressmen believe Congress is given the authority to enact such legislation under the provision of Section 2 of Article 2 of the Constitution, which gives the Federal law-making body authority to determine cases which may be appealed to the Supreme Court.

Representative Cross said his bill, if enacted into law "would mean that only a State could attack the constitutionality of an act of Congress by filing an original suit in the Supreme Court."

Representative Lewis of Maryland said the Cross bill "appeals very much to those who think the Republic needs a legislative organ as much as a judicial organ, and if one is to be permitted to destroy the other, the purpose of the Constitution is being defeated and its terms violated."

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE LABOR NEWS! HAS IT EXPIRED? LOOK UP YOUR LAST RECEIPT; THAT TELLS THE STORY!

SNOW! COLD! SLEET! RAIN! ALL COMBINE TO MAKE TOUR OF MAINE ONE WHICH PROVED DISAGREEABLE IN EXTREME

Labor News Correspondent Found Politics Sizzling, With Speculation as To Outcome of Fall Elections—Amazing Growth of Townsend Plan Promises Special Activity—New and Old Dealers Up and Doing.

(Special Correspondence)

Snow! Cold! Sleet! Rain!

At no time in my recollection after having traveled through the State, for many years, in all sorts of weather, have I encountered such a varied combination of storms.

Travel in many points visited during the past two weeks was most difficult. Heaters, defrosters and other automobile accessories were of little avail as far as providing comfort was concerned. The same effort just as though they were made of cording. Constant pulling out of ruts, badly affecting the batteries and other electric equipment, and words can hardly express the troubles encountered by your correspondent during the past two weeks, during which it was possible to cover not more than one-fourth of its usual territory.

To many of the older residents with whom I had occasion to talk, it was the worst storm experienced since the memorable occasion of 1888. For the most part, business for several days was at a standstill and this, according to merchants had a serious affect on trade.

Notwithstanding weather conditions I found those with whom I talked pretty well "pepped up" over the political situation. The question mostly discussed was as to whether or not Governor Brann was to make another run for the governorship. Because of the Governor's announcement several weeks ago that questioning his making another bid for the job, there was much speculation concerning this, and those most interested in retaining the State in the Democratic column were wondering as to who could be selected to make a successful run.

Outflow of Billions

Just at this time, when the G. O. P. is moving heaven and earth in an effort to regain the Roosevelt administration appear to be extremely wasteful in the hope that this will make the people anti-Roosevelt and anti-New Deal minded—as regards Democratic leaders no little concern. In almost its entirety, business is of the opinion there must be a change if the country is to survive. There foresees in this steady outflow of billions of dollars by the government a condition that is alarming, and that sooner or later taxes will have mounted so high as to endanger the future stability of the nation.

On the other hand, the adherants of the administration, and who see in the continuation of New Deal policies

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CATHOLICS FORM NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR PURPOSE OF AIDING RATIFICATION OF FEDERAL CHILD LABOR AMENDMENT

Ratification of the Federal Child Labor Amendment to the Constitution has been advanced by the organization of a Catholic committee, pledged to the furtherance of that object.

Heading the committee is Frank P. Walsh, prominent New York lawyer and chairman of the Power Authority of the State of New York. Included in the membership of the organization are many persons prominent in civil, religious, industrial and educational circles. Amongst those representing Labor are Edward Keating, editor of Labor, Washington, D. C.; C. F. Conroy, vice-president, New York State Federation of Labor; Robert J. Watt, secretary, Massachusetts State Federation of Labor, John J. Egan, secretary, Connecticut State Federation of Labor, and many others.

In a statement outlining the current situation with regard to the present status of the Federal Child Labor Amendment Mr. Walsh explained that 24 States have already ratified the amendment, but that 12 more States must do so before it can become effective and become incorporated in the Constitution. This, he said, will involve a struggle; "I am much distressed on account of a campaign of misrepresentation that has been launched, to defeat the success of the amendment, on the part of many Catholics. Some of them are persons of great prominence and influence, and this has been the cause of blocking the measure in a large degree."

Mr. Walsh denied that the wording of the bill was such as to open too wide a door to Federal control over children. This point had been improperly magnified. He contended that the amendment was clear in intent, and equitable in operation. It would end the exploitation of children upon the part of selfish interests.

"The word 'labor' does not include 'education' in its normal interpretation," insisted Mr. Walsh, and fears based upon that theory be declared to be groundless.

MID-WINTER SCENES IN MAINE MAKE STATE ALL-YEAR-'ROUND VACATION LAND FOR SEEKERS OF RECREATION

Defeat of Mayor Wiseman in Lewiston Attributed to Unfriendly Attitude Displayed During General Textile Strike—Tremendous Losses by Fire in Portland, Lewiston and Waterville, Call for Improved Conditions in Buildings

By Staff Correspondent

Midwinter finds three major topics of discussion in Maine among the oldtimers from Down East to the veteran business and industrial leaders of the larger communities of the Pine Tree State, as well as among the younger generation of grown-ups who though their direct and indirect participation evince a growing interest in the more serious things of life, while showing that the trend of pleasures are in the realm of entertainments that are healthful, educating and upbuilding.

The weather is by far the most discussed point of conversation heard in this recent tour of Maine in the midst of a variety of winter climate that could only be found in this part of the country. Those of three-score-and-ten seen in the midst of small gatherings of "old cronies" in hotel lobbies, neighborhood stores and at the rural centers, are comparing notes on the snowfall this year as compared with the storm of '88 and of more recent years.

Business men and leaders in social and civic affairs who want to make Maine an all-year-round "Vacationland" welcome each succeeding snowfall from the standpoint that it will bring greater throngs of winter sports enthusiasts here for carnivals held in many places throughout the State. In fact, up to now the number of out-of-State persons coming to Maine for skiing, snowshoeing, tobogganing, bobsledding, and even skating, as well as for ice-fishing, and just for the benefits of this season's weather to the health in the altitudes of the State, is greater than ever before.

Snow-removal work on the highways and even in the cities and towns is better and more efficient than for many years past, but many persons are complaining at the lack of civic pride shown by many small storeowners, and homeowners in particular, in not keeping their sidewalks clear of snow in the larger centers.

Politics is the next big topic of conversation. Maine, which has usually been a Republican, and switched to the Democratic column to twice elect Governor Brann and endorse President Roosevelt a feat that was not before accomplished for about half a century, still leans toward the policies of the New Deal, but as far as local politics are concerned, the opinions of many seem to indicate that unless Governor Brann seeks re-election Maine will probably return a Republican Governor to the Blaine Mansion. The Legislature, of course, which is largely Republican, will continue so to be.

The greatest upset in things political this Winter was the smashing defeat of Mayor Wiseman of Lewiston in the Democratic primaries as a seeker for the renomination to the office which he held for many years. His attitude towards organized Labor and especially in the handling of the textile strike had a lot to do, it is said, with his downfall. Even those who were untriendly to the efforts of organizers who were in Lewiston in behalf of textile workers admit the unfairness of the Mayor in calling out the militia and extra police, when there was not the slightest disturbance to warrant such action. He was defeated by Attorney Berman by more than 1200 votes.

Albert Moriarty, former advertising manager for the Atherton Furniture Co., who was later employed by the Worcester Evening Post as an advertising solicitor and who returned to his home in Lewiston a few months ago is running as an independent candidate for Mayor. The Republican nominee is Mr. Levesque, a successful business leader. Elections will be held in March.

Fires are another topic of conversation everywhere. As seems to be a habit in the Winter months, various cities and towns of Maine have been scenes of real big fires again this year. In Portland, on Congress street, in Lewiston, on Lisbon street, in Waterville, on the main thoroughfare, and in other communities, several major fires have occurred. These tremendous losses can in the most instances be averted, in the opinion of experts on the subject, installation of sprinklers, checking up on heating systems and the replacement of dilapidated old wooden structures in the business areas, will go a long ways toward eliminating fire hazards.

BANGOR

BANGOR ESTABLISHES HOME FOR CENTRAL LABOR UNION AND LOCAL UNIONS IN OLD FORESTERS HALL ON P. O. SQUARE

A dream of many years' standing on the part of old-timers in the trade union movement has finally been realized, and these are greatly pleased over the results of their efforts.

For many years, the Bangor Central Labor Union and affiliated local unions have been holding their meetings in various parts of the city. As a result, it is claimed there has been a lack of coordination, and matters have not been as satisfactory as they might have been if a centralized point had been established whereby all organizations met under one roof.

This, according to Richard W. Gustin, has finally been accomplished, and it is hoped within a few weeks to have all or at least the greater number of local unions combined with the Central Labor Union in occupying central headquarters.

To accomplish this, the Central Labor Union has engaged quarters in Old Foresters' Hall on Post Office square, and the following locals have already taken action to hold their meetings there: Carpenters' Local 621; Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' Local 7; Molders' Local 101; Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers' Local 687, and the Plumbers' Local.

It is hoped to have the new location completed for meeting purposes by Sunday, March 1st., when the Central Labor Union will hold its meeting, and as a means for dedicating the new quarters, all local unions in the city have been invited to send delegates, then it is proposed to discuss matters of particular interest to all members of the local trade union movement.

Sponsors for this idea for all local organizations to meet in a central point feel confident this will promote and perpetuate a better feeling among all local unions and which, it is felt certain will redound to the best interests of the entire Labor movement.

BANGOR STAGE EMPLOYES CELEBRATE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF LOCAL UNION'S FORMATION BY HOLDING BANQUET

It was a gala day for members of Local 198 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes and Moving Picture Operators, who, with their guests, celebrated the 25th anniversary of the formation of their organization at a banquet held at the Paramount Cafe on Sunday, February 2nd.

The occasion was marked by the installation of the locals new officers, which proved highly impressive and gave reason to believe that Local 198 is established on a firm and sound basis, and is bound to prove itself a source of strength and stability on behalf of its members as it has during the 25 years of its existence.

The "eats" and the special program of entertainment provided for the enjoyment of members and guests were greatly enjoyed and much credit is due members of the committee in charge of arrangements for the splendid manner in which the affair was carried out.

Present at the banquet as guests were R. W. Gustin and Ernest Ackerley, representing the Maine State Federation of Labor and the Bangor Central Labor Union, and the following members: Everett Bickford, Walter Kinney, Angelo Pedrin, Lester Hilton, Martin Jamieson, Walter Willis, Fred Marston, Charles Hall, James Jones, Norman Duran, Joseph Thomas, William Finn, and others.

Officers of Local 198 present were: Harry E. Pierce, Vice-President; Helen Brien, Secretary; James Mahoney, Treasurer; Fred Cline, Secretary; Lewis Hall, Business Agent; Hugh Dudley, Projectionist.

Messrs. Gustin and Ackerley responded to the toast to the State Federation of Labor and the Bangor Central Labor Union, both highly regarding the local union as one of the strong units in the local labor movement, and extended best wishes for a continuation of the same success which it had achieved during the past 25 years.

All present expressed the opinion that the occasion marked one of the finest Labor occasions of its kind ever held in Bangor, and that it undoubtedly was bound to have splendid effect not only as to the future of Local 198 but the local labor movement in general.

Former UTW Organizer Victim of Serious Accident at Togus

Joseph A. Poirier, until recently organizer for the United Textile Workers of America, suffered a serious accident while employed at his trade as a carpenter at Togus.

Mr. Poirier had just severed his connection with the U. T. W. of A.,

JOSEPH A. POIRIER

with which organization he had been employed for more than a year as special organizer, to accept a position on a construction job at Togus, and had been working but a few days when he was hit by a flying mass of timber, which it is feared may invapacitate him from work for several months.

While working for the U. T. W. Mr. Poirier spent much of his time in Biddeford, Saco, Lewiston and other cities of Southern Maine and successfully organized, under the guidance of General Organizer George Labar in organizing workers and winning strikes.

This is something for us who know people to think about! We all realize that this great experiment in the part of the administration is going to need a lot in the way of help. We realize that this is the greatest economic emergency that was ever to be met, and that it is going to be a long time and I can see no other way than for everybody to become patriotic and do his or her bit to make the experiment a success.

It is an undisputed fact, he said, that the old order of things as it existed in 1933 was completely out of date picture. The supposedly great minds in the country were unable to find a solution for our national ills in 1932, and when the person of Franklin D. Roosevelt there came one who was depended upon, and who actually did pull the country out of an awful mess.

A Weaver Talks

The speaker is a weaver employed in a local mill. He told of conditions as these existed prior to the NRA, when as the result of part-time employment, starvation wages, the hateful stretchout system and other industrial abuses, workers were on the verge of starvation.

Under the new conditions immediately improved after the NRA went into effect," he asked. "Do you remember how wages increased which gave us full time employment and how our wages were fixed so that we were able to improve our living standards? Can anybody possibly be so ungrateful as to forget how much they benefited from the New Deal?"

This and other incidents brought to my attention in recent conversations with working people gave me a pretty good idea as to how these feel toward the President and the New Deal, and that the fight at the coming elections, from a casual point of view at this time, will be between business on the one hand and the masses of the workers, on the other.

I had planned a trip as far north as Maine this month but weather conditions caused me to alter my plans. I had heard much concerning Quoddy during the past month and was anxious to secure information at first hand. I am much disappointed over this but plan to carry out my purpose in the near future.

I was somewhat amazed over the great amount of interest manifested throughout the State over the Townsend Plan. Included among adherants of the plan are many members of organized Labor, a goodly number of whom are planning to become candidates for State offices at the June primaries. These friends told me that the plan has also organized Labor has not taken it up as a body, the matter is seriously discussed by practically all present opportunities indicate the plan will be quite a factor at the coming election.

Because of weather conditions, except on large construction jobs in various parts of the State, building is almost at a standstill. But officials of building trades organizations are hopeful for good business when the Spring season opens.

While the going was extremely bad, my trip during the past two weeks in the central part of the State was an eventful one. Long walks at stores and meeting places afforded me an opportunity to meet many people, to talk with them, and occasionally to express my thoughts on existing conditions. I will have more to say on this in the next issue.

RAIL TERMINAL MERGER PLAN OF EASTMAN WILL AFFECT LOCAL STATIONS

Washington, D. C., Feb. 11 (AFL)—Federal Transportation Coordinator Joseph B. Eastman said he was preparing first orders in a national consolidation of railroads which would simplify transportation methods and save railroad stockholders hundreds of millions of dollars.

The first order would call for terminal consolidations in 11 cities, which will mean the abandonment of many passenger stations, freight yards and repair shops.

He declared that a survey of 5,000 separate terminals carried on under his direction reveals that consolidations can be profitably made with an ultimate saving of $50,000 for railroad owners.

"But these are only part of the program," he continued. "It is believed that the opportunities for savings, and, even more important, for traffic gains from other improvements which can be made, run into larger figures. The groundwork for these improvements has been laid and the time has come to get on with them."

His first 11 orders will affect terminals at Worcester, Mass.; Mechanicville, N. Y.; Grand Rapids, Mich.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Meridian, Miss.; Freeport, Ill.; Des Moines, Iowa; Council Bluffs, Iowa; Beaumont, Tex.; Ogden, Utah, and Montgomery, Ala.

The consolidation orders will compel all railways entering these cities to abandon competing passenger stations, use common freight yards where their capacity is large enough, and cease operating duplicate repair shops.

It was pointed out that it would not be possible to estimate the number of workers affected. The number, officials declared, would depend in part on agreements worked out between railroad management and labor and in part on the application of the Emergency Transportation Act, one section of which provides that no employes on the payroll in May, 1933, can be dismissed or demoted as a result of coordination projects. The law also prohibits reductions of more than 5 per cent in the number of employes on the payroll of a road in any year.

Mr. Eastman explained that his plan does not vision consolidating the railroads into huge units or shoothering competition, but rather to enable the competing companies "to cooperate to mutual advantage where their interests are common."

He frankly warned however, that if private enterprise "proves unable to do what the public interest requires," public ownership of the railroads "is inevitable." But he sincerely expressed the hope that Federal operation of the carriers would not be necessary.

FEDERAL PROBE OF STRIKE AND LOCKOUT SCHEMES URGED BY SEAMEN'S UNION

Washington, D. C., Feb. 11 (AFL)—The thirty-third convention of the International Seamen's Union of America in session here, adopted a resolution urging an investigation by the Federal government of the "unscrupulous propaganda and manipulations" during the past several months on the part of certain persons and groups, known and unknown, for the purpose of forcing a general strike or seamen or a general lockout by shipowners in the Pacific, Atlantic and Gulf coasts and on the Great Lakes without the knowledge or consent of the legitimate organizations of seafarers or shipowners.

The resolution declared that the Government should ascertain who are the responsible parties in the strike and lockout conspiracy, "expose them to public view and take such other action in relation thereto as may be necessary in the interests of the American Merchant Marine," and instructed all officers and members of the Seamen's Union "to make available to the Federal Government all information they may have in relation to the general executive board of the Amalgamated Association, who has been confined in his home on South Flagg street since he suffered an accident in Detroit last Fall which caused amputation of a leg.

On his return to Portland, Mr. McDonald stopped in Boston for a conference with President John J. Mara of the Boot and Shoe Workers' International Union, relative to a campaign which that organization is planning in Maine during the Spring months.

Frank D. McDonald, a vice-president of the Maine State Federation of Labor and secretary of Division 714, Street Carmen's Union of Portland, spent Monday calling on friends in Worcester.

Mr. McDonald, who is a member of the supervisory committee of the Maine State Labor News, called on Freeman M. Saltus of The Worcester Labor News, and conferred with him on matters pertaining to the Maine paper, and later called on John H. Reardon, a former member of the subject matter of this resolution.

In justification of its demand for a Federal investigation the convention asserted that the "United States is the only maritime nation which recognizes seamen as free men in relation to their labor contracts," and emphasized the provisions in the laws and treaties of all the maritime nations which stipulate that seamen leaving their employment during the term of their engagement are subject to imprisonment for contract violation.

The strike and lockout propaganda and manipulations, the convention said, "are plainly inimical to the American seamen of all grades into activities tending to create the utterly false impression that as a class they are irresponsible and unreliable, that their trade unions are incapable of carrying out agreements and voluntary arbitration awards, and that they cannot be trusted to properly exercise the freedom obtained through the passage of the Seamen's Act only two years ago, thus aiding and abetting the enemies of human liberty who desire a restoration of the former imprisonment laws against seamen."

The convention expressed the belief that the lockout and strike propaganda and manipulations are the result of a "deliberate conspiracy unlawful in its purpose and effect" which jeopardizes both the "public interest" and the "liberty of the seamen," and instructed Secretary-Treasurer Victor A. Olander to bring the investigation resolution to the attention of the President and the Congress of the United States without delay."

WATERVILLE

SECRETARY PERKINS, IN VIGOROUS TALK AT COLBY COLLEGE, SHOWS GAIN IN *LABOR AND INDUSTRY UNDER NEW DEAL*

Waterville is a good many hundreds of miles from Washington, the capital of the nation, but the distance was shortened to zero a few days ago. On that occasion, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins came to this old historic town to breathe the spirit of cheer and encouragement to the citizens. In her talk to a Colby College Institute, she declared that both labor and business were on a rising curve of improvement. This, she said, was due to the policies of the present Administration at Washington.

In proof of this, she pointed to the fact that nearly five million men and women who had been without jobs, on March 1st, 1933, have since returned to employment in the private industry. Also, four million others have found work on PWA construction projects, in CCC camps, on State road work and other WPA jobs.

As to payrolls, records showed that the December weekly payroll for industries as surveyed by the Labor Department, was 122 million dollars larger than for the corresponding week of March, 1933, when President Roosevelt took office. As for farm income, that had increased in 1935 more than a billion dollars over the like period in 1933, covering 10 months.

In summing up the main causes for the improvements noted above, Secretary Perkins said that Administration measures to raise wages, shorten hours, increase purchasing power and improve farm prices had been successfully adopted. Aid to the banks and the railroads had also had a beneficial effect in stimulating recovery.

From the industrial point of view, the case of the United States Steel Corp. was cited. This showed a net income of over a million dollars in the report of operations for 1935, as compared with a loss of 21 million dollars in 1934.

Also, the large General Motors Corp. had the most successful year in its history. These facts showed the good effects of the Administration's recovery program, said Secretary Perkins.

BRUNSWICK

Brunswick UTW 2225 Elects Jos. Levesque Pres. for Ensuing Year

Joseph Levesque was chosen president of Brunswick U. T. W. of A. Local 2225 at its annual meeting for the election of officers, held on Saturday, February 1st.

Other officers elected were: Vice-president, Joseph Bernier; recording secretary, Alfred Richard; financial secretary, Eugene Ouellette; treasurer, Jean Marie St. Pierre; guide, Ernest Gagne; warden, Napoleon Guinarch.

Reports of financial officers showed the local in good financial condition, and that growing interest is manifested in the affairs of the local.

Much interest is also directed to award of the hearing to determine the standing of the local union as to its right to collective bargaining, as sum-

MADISON

Madison U. T. W. Local in Splendid Shape, Says Sec'y Landry

Although having been going but a comparatively short time, Madison U. T. W. of A. Local 2020 is doing fine and according to Secretary E. M. Landry prospects for the future are exceptionally good.

Working conditions, Secretary Landry writes, which were anything but satisfactory prior to the starting of the organization, have been readjusted in several departments, these including the spinning, weaving and dresser rooms, and the management—at the request of the union's grievance committee, has under consideration making readjustments in other departments in the near future.

"Our members attend meetings regularly and are paying their dues promptly and all told, matters are going along as well as could be expected," Secretary Landry writes in conclusion.

Clothing Wkrs. Appeal for Moral Assistance in Cincinnati Strike

According to a communication received by Secretary Clarence E. Burrows of the Maine State Federation of Labor, an alliance of sweat shop bosses are waging a combined battle against the Cincinnati Clothing Workers' Union and the latter requested publicity, stating that 300 members of the local union are asking for the moral support of organized Labor by refusing to buy clothing made by the following concerns, until they have made their peace with the union:

Hamilton Tailoring Co., Lauer Tailoring Co., Ohio Custom Garment Co., Robert Tailoring Co., and Brighton Tailoring Company.

Officials of local unions are requested to write these concerns, telling them organized Labor will refuse to buy their products until such time as they are willing to demonstrate fairness to their employes.

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR

RAIN, SNOW SLEET COLD

(Continued from Page 1).

the only way in which some 11,500,000 unemployed people can be provided with relief jobs, comparable to the New Deal have been doing for other ills of a similar nature. They further conclude the idea that with the return of Republicanism all this will be wiped out, that the restoration of confidence there will be some 18 or 20 billions of dollars available for building new machinery to meet present needs of industry.

These argue that if this is true, then why not make this great amount of money available at once, and by this means put a million or more of the unemployed to work? Business, it is claimed, in many of the basic industries, is almost at peak. Then why not be patriotic and cooperate with the administration by lifting at least a portion of the tremendous load the administration is now forced to carry?

Of One Mind

The subject is causing unprecedented interest. Manufacturers, large and small, salaried executives, wholesale and retail dealers, large real estate holders, clerks, and all directly or indirectly connected with business, seem to lean considerably toward the argument that the government is spending too much money.

From what I could learn during my trip, however, was that little is said by those who make up the rank and file of working people. That they are thinking a lot, however, is an undisputable fact, and to them the present move to discredit President Roosevelt and the New Deal doesn't seem straight and above board.

While in Lewiston I happened to meet a group of workers who were discussing the address of a Congressman at a meeting in Portland, who stressed his audience that a continuance of wasteful expenditures, such as on WPA, PWA and other public works projects will mean the ruination of the country.

"I understand from one of the group said, "that those who are opposing the President are pledging themselves to discontinue all these projects. It seems what is to become of the three and a half millions of people who are at present employed on these."

A Serious Problem

"A statement recently made by an industrial expert said that even though manufacturing reached its highest degree of production, not more than a million and a half or two millions of the idle workers could be absorbed. If this is correct, then what is to become of the remaining million or more, as well as the relief now provided for the eleven and one-half millions and some 20 millions of their dependants if we are to rely on private industry to absorb those now employed on federal, state and municipal projects?"

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Official Proceedings

OF THE

Executive Council of the Maine State Federation of Labor

AT MEETINGS HELD IN RUMFORD, JUNE 11, 1935, AND IN BANGOR, JANUARY 12, 1936.

To All Affiliated Locals and Central Bodies:

GREETINGS:

The Executive Council of the Maine State Federation herewith submits a report of their activities, and the two meetings held thus far.

The first meeting was held in Rumford immediately following the adjournment of the 31st Annual Convention. The following bills were submitted and voted to be paid: Rumford Legion Post, hall rent, $20; Henry Gagnon, printing ballots, $4; James Poole, attending convention as an executive officers, $41.18; Wilfred Gagnon, transportation of executive officer, $5, to be paid at the convenience of the Council.

The Treasurer was authorized to transfer the funds of the organization from the First National Granite Bank of Augusta to the Merchants National Bank of Bangor.

The Council issued to Morris Hurwich, of the Hartford Central Labor Union, credentials to solicit funds in Maine for the Colt Patent Firearms strikers.

It was voted to refer the report of the Committee on State of Organization to the President for consideration.

Other matters referred to the Council by the Convention were again referred to the President and Secretary for further consideration. Adjourned at 5 P. M.

The second meeting of the Council was held in Bangor on January 12, 1936. All members were present. Several communications were read, discussed and voted to file. A communication regarding the possibility of having the next convention reported verbatim, was discussed, and the Secretary was instructed to write all locals making inquiry as to possible men or women members able to report the convention, verbatim and probable cost.

A communication from the American Association for Labor Legislation read, requesting a contribution, and voted to contribute $5 for this purpose.

It was voted that Vice-President McDonald be authorized to go to Worcester and attempt to negotiate a written agreement with Editor Saltus, and report to the Executive Council.

The Secretary was instructed to write all affiliated Locals calling their attention to Resolution No. 17, relating to workers education.

WHEREAS, The Federal Government has set aside about $40,000,000 for educational purposes, and

WHEREAS, A large portion of this amount can be used for workers education and

WHEREAS, The workers of Maine have not yet taken advantage of this proposition. Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the 31st Annual Convention, here assembled, instruct the incoming Executive Board to take the necessary steps in conjunction with the State Commissioner of Education and the Workers Education Bureau, to secure the appointment of a State Director of Workers Education in Maine, and Be it Further

RESOLVED, That the Executive Council cooperate with the appointed State Director in behalf of the workers of Maine.

It was voted that the Secretary write to all affiliated Locals, urging them to earnestly cooperate in the election of men and women on school boards favorable to labor, as per the following Resolution No. 21, adopted at the 31st Convention.

WHEREAS, If the Labor Movement is to endure we must prepare for its future, and

WHEREAS, In order that we may take an active part in the education of our school children, especially those in high schools, and

WHEREAS, That we may see that they may secure the best text books that will best set Labor's philosophy and economy, Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Maine State Federation of Labor go on record as recommending the members of this Federation to take an active interest in the proceedings of our various Boards of Education.

Resolution No. 27, relating to securing funds to forward our educational program, was discussed and it was voted to lay on the table for further investigation.

Itemized bills of all members of the Council, paid by the President and Treasurer, were read, discussed and approved subject to the action of the next Convention.

It was voted to approve the appointment and activities of Secretary Burgess as a member of the State Highway Safety Committee. It was also voted to accept the report and approve the appointment of Secretary Burgess as an advisory member of the State Committee on National Youth Administration.

It was voted the Executive Council notify all local unions through The Labor News, that the Holyoke Wire Cloth Co. is on the "We Don't Patronize" list and that the Secretary notify the International Union of this action.

It was voted to reiterate our endorsement of the State of Mainers, Inc., and that Vice-President McDonald be designated as the official representative of the State Federation of Labor in such cooperation.

After considerable discussion on the 30-hour week bill, it was voted that the Legislative Agent urge the Maine Congressional Delegation to support a 30-hour week bill without loss of pay to piece or hourly workers.

It was voted that the Secretary write the story of the "Bangor Plan" to help bear relief workers, and with copies of Bangor papers, request the advice of Frank Morrison as to the legality of the plan.

The President was instructed to send telegrams to the A. F. of L. Executive Council, reiterating our request for funds to organize the workers of Maine. Vice-President McDonald was instructed to wire W. D. Mahon, president Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes and Bus Operators, urging his support in this matter.

It was voted that the Secretary write Harry Hopkins to obtain wage rates and other information applying to WPA work in Maine and the Quoddy Authority Project.

The Executive Council unanimously went on record as opposed to the security wage rate now paid by the WPA Administrator, and requested that the prevailing wage rate be paid on WPA work in Maine.

The following communication from the Maine Textile Council was accepted, endorsed and plans are to be formulated to accomplish such legislation:

To the Executive Council of the Maine State Federation of Labor

The Maine Textile Council consisting of representatives of the different Textile Locals of the State of Maine who are affiliated with the Maine Federation of Labor, which is the agency for Labor legislation enacted, report for the benefit of the workers endorses and requests the Maine State Federation of Labor Executive Committee at their meeting on January 12th, to place before and support the following resolutions at the coming session of the Maine Legislature

WHEREAS, The Maine Textile Council, being representatives of the Textile Locals of the State of Maine, and

WHEREAS, The Maine Textile Council, realizes the value and need of labor legislation in Maine, so be it

RESOLVED, That the following resolutions adopted by this Council be presented to the Maine Federation Committee for their consideration and enactment

First. That an Anti-Injunction bill similar to the bill passed by the State of Massachusetts, be enacted.

Second. That an adequate unemployment insurance bill be drawn up.

Third. That an adequate Old Age Pension bill be drawn up.

Fourth. That a State law guaranteeing the rights of workers to organize and insure collective bargaining be drawn up.

Fifth. That a revision of the Compensation Act be contemplated.

Sixth. That a prevailing wage scale of pay of the community be adhered to by all State, municipal or Federal government projects or work.

Seventh. That the personnel of the Labor Department be increased sufficiently enough to insure safe working conditions in the industries.

Association which had been maintained for more than 50 years, and appealed to members of organized labor for their moral support.

Lawyers Betrayed Victims of Silicosis, is New Charge

Washington, D. C., Feb 5 (AFL)—James W. Mason, formerly an attorney of Charleston, W. Va., told the House Labor Committee investigating the working conditions in the Hawk's Nest power tunnel in Southern West Virginia that E. J. Perkins, a superintendent of Rinehart & Dennis, the contractors who built the tunnel paid a law firm in Fayetteville, W. Va., which was handling claims against the company filed by silicosis victims $20,000 to help settle the claims in the interest of the contractors. At the same time, the law firm took fees from the victims as their counsel.

Mr. Mason said he represented 96 silicosis cases in two trials at Fayetteville, both of which resulted in a hung jury. One of the jurymen was penalized for contempt of court, the charge being that he had fraternized with company officials during the trial. He declared that "suspicions of tampering with the juries and the payment of $20,000 to the law firm was the most damnable outrage ever perpetrated in any State."

Mr. Mason's examination was enunciated by Representative Marcantonio of New York, the author of the resolution under which the tunnel silicosis tragedy is being probed. He said the deal between the company officials and the lawyers representing the workers was the "most damnable racket I know of."

In response to questioning by Representative Dunn of Pennsylvania, a member of the committee, Mr. Mason expressed the opinion that if the company had used respirators and wet drills to protect tunnel workers from breathing silica dust the workmen would not have contracted the disease. Mr. Dunn characterized the alleged refusal of the company to take these precautions as "gambling but wholesale murder."

STIMULATING DESIRE FOR HOME OWNERSHIP BIGGEST PROBLEM OF INDUSTRY

Federal Housing Administration, in Statement Recently, Says Not Until 1935 Was Much Headway Made in This Direction—Fundamental Arguments in Favor of Home Ownership.

Leaders of the building industry who recently participated in a nation wide radio forum, all agreed that the biggest job confronting the building industry is stimulating the desire for home ownership.

Selling the idea of home ownership to the American people has been the biggest job of the industry for the past few years. The drop in home construction to one-tenth the average yearly building program of the years before the depression made the solving of the problem essential. Until residence construction again approaches the volume of the pre-depression era it is asserted, the building and heavy goods industries would lay dormant, as general business recovery remain uncertain.

It was vitally necessary for the American people to begin that long deferred residence building program. Attempts were made during the past few years by various groups of the building industry to persuade the prospective home owner that the time was not until 1935 was much headway made in this up-stream fight to revive residence building.

In 1935 the efforts of the building industry, in the discouraging struggle up-stream against the current of apathy brought on by the depression, received strong assistance from the Government, which made the going easier. The Federal Housing Administration's program for increased residence building was put in operation in the closing month of 1934.

By March, 1935, the lending institutions had analyzed the plan and the necessary machinery to function had been set up, with the result that $72,272,228 of mortgages were insured by the Federal Housing Administration during the month by the Home Loans Division. Those mortgages were held by lending institutions and represented 3,977 dwelling units. Further months of 1935 insured mortgages were being written at the rate of a million dollars a day. During the first seven months of January this year $21,337,926 worth of mortgages were insured by the Federal Housing Administration.

Since the start of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Plan the proportion of new residential building financed under the plan has steadily risen until it has reached 37.2 per cent of the total new residential construction in the United States.

Since all of this new residence construction is being paid for out of private funds, there is no good reason why every man in the building industry should not get back of this movement and demand the continuance of sound constructive stimulation of residence building. Building authorities agree that home construction will not assume its rightful place of leadership in the rehabilitation of the building industry until all branches of that industry act in a coordinated force to build more and better homes.

The recognition of that fact by the building industry may be a long forward step toward the realization of the purpose. But unless every person connected with the building industry regards himself as a working part of that coordinating force and puts all his energies into making it effective, the goal will be set up, will be reached.

Holyoke Wire Cloth Co. Placed on Labor's "We Don't Patronize" List

Acting on a communication from the National Executive Board of the American Wire Weavers' Protective Association, the Executive Council of the Maine State Federation of Labor placed the Holyoke Wire Cloth Company of Holyoke, Mass., on Labor's "We Don't Patronize" list, and it was voted to make this known through the columns of The Maine State Labor News in its February issue.

According to the communication received at the January 12th meeting of the Executive Board, the company had an agreement with the union that did not expire until January 1, 1937. Edward Docherty, president of the Holyoke Company, it was said, repudiated the agreement by not only announcing a 20 per cent pay reduction, but that on and after January 1, 1936, the Holyoke concern would operate on an open shop basis.

In taking this action, the communication states, the Holyoke concern started a move to destroy relations existing between the union and the American Wire Weavers Protective

INTERSTATE LABOR COMPACTS GAINING FAVOR THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

Progress in making effective Interstate labor compacts is reported by the Massachusetts State Commission handling such affairs. Such is the assurance given in the official report on such negotiations as recently filed at the State House this week.

Senator Henry A. Parkman, chairman of the commission, is optimistic regarding the consistent growth and development of the principle which seeks to harmonize the general plan of working conditions, as pertaining to a stated industry, branches of which are conducted in several adjoining States. As a result of the work of the commission, a permanent organization is advocated for the purpose of establishing and further developing the aims thus far made. Twenty-six States have already made general interstate industrial compacts.

Chairman Parkman favored a general Federal law to cover the field even more broadly than is made possible by purely interstate compacts. On the other hand, those States that see their labors largely nullified by the opposition of recalcitrants may bend their efforts for a Federal law to compel them to come within the fold of standardized, industrial agreements. It is shown that Massachusetts has suffered lost ground in comparison with other leading Industrial States, from 1921 to 1929, but gained somewhat thereafter. Unfair labor competitive standards in other States are considered to be responsible to some degree for this showing. Hence the interest in interstate compacts affecting labor and industry. The outlawing of the NRA brings the matter more sharply than ever to the front.

12,000 CLERGYMEN, REPRESENTING VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS READY TO DENOUNCE IT SHOULD GOVERNMENT DECLARE WAR

Noted New York Preacher and Political Pacifist Discusses Economic Sanctions as Affecting Peace and War—Dismisses League of Nations as Effective Agent—Dr. Stratton Next Forum Speaker.

Worcester, Mass., February 15 — Rev. John Haynes Holmes, of the Community Church, New York, was the speaker at Monday evening's meeting of the People's Forum. As a clergyman and a frankly avowed pacifist the speaker gave it as his opinion that economic sanctions supplied the best preventive against war. His topic was "Is Pacifism a Cure for War?"

Admitting that idealism was not, of itself, a sufficient guarantee against acts of an aggressor, the speaker told of a mass movement upon the part of 12,000 clergymen of different denominations including Jewish rabbis, all of whom were pledged against war and would denounce it from their several pulpits should war be declared by this government. These members constituted the advance guard of divines that number not less than 12,000 clergymen all opposed to war.

Over and over the speaker referred to economic sanctions as being the only practical and effective method which the world at large could adopt to oppose the entry into war of the people of the belligerent nations. He explained why Russia declined any such policy on the part of whether leading powers and had fought it from the start. Russia, he declared, was convinced that economic sanctions would be futile and that the only method left to the world was that of war.

The theory remains, but little else has resulted.

Russia was referred to as being in [illegible] with Italy to defeat the [illegible] of any such restraint to [illegible] with regard to the present Africa campaign. As to the League of Nations, Dr. Holmes dismissed it as an effective agent. Present events in the Italo-Ethiopian conflict, he said, have shown the league to offer no advantage in the measure of protecting them against such aggression as Italy is practicing upon helpless Abyssinia. He referred, with some spirit, to the threat of Italy to "quit the League" if interfered with, regarding the imposition of economic sanctions.

A good sized audience greeted the noted speaker, who was introduced by Chairman E. Bert Johnson. The one convincing thought brought forth by the speaker was that Europe was afraid to impose, and enforce, economic sanctions against Italy, and that if preservation rather than self-sacrificing idealism still continued to dominate the military councils of Europe at least.

A. F. of L. Ex. Council Orders Dissolution of Lewis' Committee

The American Federation of Labor, through its president and executive council in session at Miami, Fla., has moved to bring to a head and dispose of the controversial issue of industrial unionism. Feeling itself challenged by the position taken by John L. Lewis, uncompromising advocate of industrial unions, the Federation ordered the dissolution of the Lewis committee. Labeling the committee as a sort of "union within the union".

BIRMINGHAM OVERALL MAKER FORCED TO UNIONIZE FACTORY WHEN WORKERS AND FARMERS REFUSE TO BUY HIS GOODS

How the reciprocal agreement between the National Farmers Union and the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor is getting results is given in a report submitted to the recent national convention of the Farmers Union. The report said, in part:

"In Birmingham an overall factory refused to recognize the union workers. The union officials of other crafts urged the management to recognize the union, stating that if they failed to do this all organized workers numbering about 100,000 men and women would refuse to buy overalls. The officers of the company laughed at them, saying that it would not affect them as more than 71 per cent of their overalls were purchased by farmers.

"About that time all the members of the Farmers' Union began to demand union made goods of their merchants. These merchants, in turn, notified salesmen of this overall factory that they could no longer buy their overalls to farmer customers without the union label.

"With the farmers refusing to buy and industrial labor refusing to buy, there was no one to whom to sell and this overall factory, that had been holding out for months, immediately called in the union committee and signed a contract agreeable to the union."

This is proof of the results that can be obtained through united action of farmers and workers. The importance and possibilities for good to be accomplished by this agreement are beyond the powers of our imagination.

The reciprocal agreement, which was made by a committee of the Farmers' Union with the Union Label Trades Department was recently approved by the national convention of the Farmers' Union. The agreement provides that members of the Farmers' Union will buy goods and services only from merchants that display the union label, shop card and button, and that members of labor unions will buy only from merchants that likewise display the Farmers' Union shop card and label.

Labor's Gains Since 1933 Set Big Record, Miss Perkins Asserts

American wage earners made greater gains under the Roosevelt Administration than in any other similar period in history, Secretary Perkins told the International Seamen's Union convention here.

Increased employment and payrolls, shorter hours, representation on various governmental agencies, greater opportunities for collective bargaining and efforts aimed at abolishing child labor, were among the gains she cited. She listed the Social Security Act and the National Labor Relations Board as two particularly bright spots in the New Deal's labor picture.

Employment, payrolls, production, farm income, profits and dividends have shown a rising curve since March of 1933 while confidence has been restored and substantial progress has been made in the war on depression, she added.

"Under President Roosevelt's inspiring leadership," Miss Perkins said, "and with a spirit of unity and action continuing among wage earners, the farmers, employers and consumers, we should be able to consolidate the considerable progress already made and move forward to rout the forces which have brought want, despair and misery into so many homes and affected so many of our people."

Probe of Liberty League is Started by U. S. Senate

Washington, D. C., Feb. 5 (AFL)—An investigation of the American Liberty League, which has devoted much of its energy and money to propaganda attacking the constitutionality of the social justice laws enacted by Congress during the last three years, and other political organizations "engaged in similar sabotage of progressive legislation, was initiated by the Senate Lobby Committee.

The committee sent a questionnaire to a large number of corporations and individuals asking them if they solicited funds for contributions or have contributed to the following organizations:

The Crusaders, The Crusaders' National Organization, Inc., American Liberty League, New York State Economic Council, American Federation of Utility Investors, American Federation of Investors, Inc., and the American Taxpayers' League.

Injunction Judge Geiger Wages War on Labor Board

Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 5 (AFL)—Federal Judge F. A. Geiger continued his war upon the National Labor Relations Board by issuing an injunction restraining the Board from investigating charges that the Marathon Electric Company, Wausau, Wis., had discharged 14 members of the International Association of Machinists for union activities.

No testimony was taken and no arguments permitted. Attorneys for the company merely informed Judge Geiger that the Board had called a hearing on the complaint. That was plenty for the Judge. He shut out the injunction forthwith, thus continuing the arbitrary policy which he manifested in restraining the Board from investigating complaints filed by the workers charging the A. J. Lindemann and Hoverson Co., Milwaukee, and Inland Steels, Inc., Fond du Lac, with violating the unfair labor practices section of the National Labor Relations Act.

SKILLED LABOR SHORTAGE IS DENIED BY A. F. OF L. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Recent Survey Refutes Claim of Business Leaders at Chicago Meeting—Discrimination Against Union Labor is Cited—Instability of Employment Often Forces Skilled Men to Seek Employment in Other Lines.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 12 (AFL)—The report emanating from a conference of 700 industrial executives in Chicago, sponsored by the American Management Association, that business is confronted with an acute shortage of skilled labor, brought forth a prompt and emphatic denial from officials of the American Federation of Labor.

It was claimed at the Chicago meeting that although hundreds of technical jobs are opening, trained men cannot be found to fill them, with the shortage most apparent in the automobile and machine trades. Spokesmen for the A. F. of L. declared that where such reports had been traced to their source "they were proved to be either without foundation or due to discrimination against union members."

It was pointed out that in a recent survey of the skilled labor situation following a similar charge, the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor said:

"Our investigation indicates:

"1. That there is no shortage of skilled workers if employers are willing to employ union mechanics.

"2. That the claimed shortage of skilled workers is due to discrimination against union members and is used as an excuse for lengthening the hours or undercutting union rates of pay.

"3. That instability of employment often forces skilled mechanics to seek work in other occupations.

"4. That an adequate employment service would help to make contact between the employer seeking skilled men and the employe equipped to do the job."

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The Labor News

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Published Monthly by
THE MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR
Under Supervision of Jean D'Avignon, Frank C. McDonald, Clarence R. Burgess, Charles McHale, Committee.
P. O. Box 84, Augusta, Me.

The Official Organ of Organized Labor in Maine. Devoted to the Promotion of the Welfare of the Wage Earner and the Prosperity of Industry Through a Better Understanding and Cooperation Between Employer and Employe.
An Exponent of a Square Deal for Both Sides. Constructive in Policy. Independent in Politics.

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

President—Jean D'Avignon, Rumford
Treasurer—Richard W. Gustin, P. O. Box 107, Bangor
Secretary and Legislative Agent—Clarence R. Burgess, P. O. Box 84, Augusta

Vice-Presidents
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2nd District—Charles McHale, Rumford
3rd District—Ronalds Poulin, 19 Morton Pl., Augusta
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5th District—Benjamin J. Dorsky, Bangor

FEBRUARY, 1936

What the "Happy Warrior" Did Not Say

Rapped the President and New Deal, But Did Not Credit Him With Having Gotten the Country Out of An Awful Mess, and Neither Did He Suggest Remedy for Existing Ills.

Wonder how many working people there were in "Al" Smith's radio audience on Saturday, Feb. 8, who joined representatives of Big Business, Liberty Leaguers and others, in applauding the words of the former Governor of New York State in his tirade against President Roosevelt and the New Deal.

Wonder how many of these put any real faith in his statement to the effect that if matters do not take a change favorable to Big Business, millions of Democrats will walk out on Election Day?

And further, we wonder why, in his tirade against the President, the "Happy Warrior" who, until he became president of one of the biggest realty companies in the country, was regarded as the working people's greatest champion, has now become the champion of Big Business, represented by the DuPonts, Reynolds, Sloans, Morgans, Raskobs, Rockefellers and others, who, with professional politicians, were *responsible for bringing financial and industrial ruin to the greatest and wealthiest* country on the face of the earth.

The writer heard every word of "Al" Smith's address on Saturday evening, and from start to finish he could not detect a single word that did not indicate these were uttered by one who not only was unappreciative of the honors conferred upon him by millions of working people, but that it was resentment against his party, which at the Chicago convention in 1932 failed to consider him sufficiently capable to lead the party to success.

A partial list of names among the 2000 who were present at the Liberty League banquet held at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington on Saturday, Feb. 8, as published in the newspapers, telling as to who did all the applauding—gives a pretty good idea as to the class of people the "Happy Warrior" is now championing. Included among these one failed to notice a single person who represented the masses of the workers. Banking and finance, huge industries, big investors, real estate magnates, railroad barons, and others—all of whom accepted the New Deal most graciously as a means for saving themselves and their businesses from bankruptcy in 1933—were those whom the radio listeners heard shout approval when the speaker became oratorical in comparing President Roosevelt's administration with that of Soviet Russia.

And how this aggregation of unappreciative men—many of whom in 1933 were begging the Administration for relief—applauded when the speaker remarked, at the top of his voice, that the Supreme Court is "throwing the New Deal out of the window".

Space does not permit the recounting of all the contemptible words uttered by this one-time so-called "champion of working people". Suffice it to say, however, that associated as he is at the present time, with men whose God is Profits, it is certain his ramblings against the President and the New Deal will have little or no effect upon the great masses of working people who benefitted in the way of wages, hours and working conditions since the New Deal went into effect.

Working people are not so dumb but what they can see that the Liberty League is purely an organization made up of those who, although having greatly benefitted from the New Deal, are spending millions in propaganda as a means for coercing the workers into believing that to permit its continuance is to foster, Socialism, Communism and other isms, to the detriment of the Nation.

All must remember that the League, in common with the Republican party, is pledged to discontinue all that has been advanced to better the conditions of the common people. They have succeeded in abolishing the NRA and the AAA, and are now hoping to destroy the Wagner-Connery Labor Disputes Act, the National Security Act—which provides for unemployment insurance and old age pensions, the Holding Company Act—which assures honest dealings on the part of utility corporations; the Black 30-Hour Week Bill, and all measures advanced for not only putting the nation back upon its feet, but to assure the many millions of workers in this country a square deal.

Most amusing of all among "Al" Smith's criticisms of the Administration's policies, was the assertion that all these matters should be left to the individual States to work out. What a chance! Take right here in Maine, for instance. What progress had been made by those who favored the very things made possible by the Federal Government through the New Deal?

Speaking for the Liberty Leaguers, Smith said these know how Labor feels toward the President and the New Deal. He said they know that Labor is going to stand by the President, and they know that Big Business as a whole is going to oppose him, but do not know what the "great middle class" is going to do. Therefore, Smith appealed to these as the great force that will count in the League's effort to break down the New Deal.

Perhaps Mr. Smith is not aware of the fact that this class, who are also called "white collar" men, were among the greatest sufferers from the depression which in 1933 caused them not only to be numbered among the great army of unemployed, but who suffered tremendous losses through wage cuts. Many of these lost their homes and were compelled to resort to all kinds of occupations to keep body and soul together.

Does Mr. Smith think for one moment these people have forgotten the dark days of 1933? Does he also think that the small business man, who was also a great sufferer, and who made a comeback under the New Deal, is going to "fall all over himself" to swallow the Liberty Leaguers' buncombe?

Having for 50 years had close association with working people and small business men, the writer has confidence not only in their intelligence but feels they are appreciative to the extent that when the proper time comes they are going to tell "Al" Smith and his aggregation of renegade Democrats, "To H--- with your Liberty League!"

McCarl Puts Barrier in Housing Development

Government's Plan to Clear Slums and Afford Low-Income Group Decent Shelter Through Special Subsidy, Retarded as Result of Opposition From Private Real Estate Interests.

Efforts of the Federal Government to provide low-cost housing at rentals within the reach of small-income groups meet one barrier after another.

Private real estate interests have fought the housing policy from the beginning. In a number of cases Federal judges —instinctively hostile to social welfare activities by the Government—have issued injunctions tying up projects pending a decision by the United States Supreme Court relative to the housing statute.

In order to bring rent charges down within the reach of those who require cheap housing the Public Works Administration, which is sponsor for the projects, donated 45 per cent of the cost from Federal funds. Under this plan rentals would be based on 55 per cent of construction costs.

Now Comptroller General J. R. McCarl erects another barrier to the housing developments with the ruling that inasmuch as the law does not specifically state that rents may be based on less than construction costs the Government must fix rents sufficiently high to defray the Government's total investment.

In commenting on the ruling, Secretary of the Interior Ickes declared "it is perfectly obvious that if the low-income group, now living under the most wretched conditions imaginable, are to be given decent shelter and opportunity to grow up as useful citizens, there must be a subsidy applied to their housing."

He added that the situation created by Mr. McCarl's edict would require "mandatory" legislation by Congress sufficiently comprehensive "to permit the administration of the PWA slum clearance program."

It is believed that sentiment in both the Senate and the House of Representatives favors the Federal subsidy plan vetoed by Mr. McCarl and that appropriate legislation to make the lower rents effective will be enacted in the near future.

Increased Dividends Tell the Story

Colossal Dividends in Basic Industries in 1935 Over 1934 Gives President's Critics Little Reason for Any Complaint.

An answer to critics of the New Deal is contained in the following figures compiled by Business, issued during the week.

According to this publication, business was much better in 1935 than in 1934, its tabulations showing some industries made remarkable profit records, when this is measured by dividends paid.

Steel dividends rose 100 per cent; mail order house, 165 per cent; coppers, 148 per cent. Utilities dividends rose 1 per cent; banks and insurance, 7 per cent; railroads, 3 per cent; foods, 2 per cent; chain stores, 1 per cent; motors, 42 per cent; oils, 8 per cent. The average increase in industrial dividends was 10 per cent.

And who benefited mostly from these increased dividends? None other than the DuPonts, Sloans, Rockefellers, Morgans and others who, in their efforts to kill the New Deal, are aided and abetted by our erstwhile friend and former champion, 'Al' Smith.

Millions of working people who, at one time, held the former Governor in great esteem, are amazed over his change of esteem, and some go so far as to doubt his sanity, feeling that hobnobbing with the moneyed class during the past few years has caused him to become obsessed with a feeling of greatness that eventually brought about a swollen head.

Business Week is considered one of the nation's leading industrial publications. It is regarded as authentic, and its compilation showing how industry benefited as the result of the New Deal is so convincing that the criticism launched against the President, it is certain, will have little effect on the millions of working people, who feel confident political and selfish motives, and nothing else, are prompting this unwarranted, unfair and abusive criticism.

A Side Light on General Motors

Gouging Workers While Gorging Fakers is One Reason Why Labor Fails to Thrill at Tales of Profits.

Every time General Motors boasts of its prosperity and tells how its stockholders profit, someone ought to retell the story of the Heany lamps.

When General Motors was still young, W. C. Durant, founder of the company, was also its president. He bought some patents from a man named Heany. He paid Heany $112,759 in cash; $1,111,000 in preferred stock of General Motors; and $5,908,500 in common stock of the same corporation.

When that transaction was made, the Heany patents were already under attack as fraudulent. A little later, they were voided by the Patent Office. Two men who helped Heany to get his patents were sent to prison for fraud, though by some weird freak of chance or other forces, Heany himself escaped. The patents themselves were not worth a dollar when Durant bought them for General Motors, and shortly afterward, they were charged off the books.

Lawrence Seltzer, one of the few real authorities on automobile history, dug into this transaction, and summed it up in these words, written near the end of 1927:

"On October 1, 1927, the securities issued for the Heany companies (as multiplied by stock dividends) had a market value in excess of $320,000,000; by this date more than $50,000,000 in cash dividends had been paid upon them; and they now command annual dividends in excess of $10,000,000."

Dividends were paid and prices of the stock went up for two years after Mr. Seltzer made his report. It is clear that before the crash in the Fall of 1929, those faked patents had paid someone—principally the fakers, no doubt—more than $400,000,000.

That sum, thrown away on an utter fake, is $50,000,000 greater than the total wages paid by the motor industry in 1931 —vehicles, bodies and parts all taken together. Gouging workers while gorging fakers may well be one reason why labor fails to thrill at the tale of the profits of General Motors.

Power of Organization to Offset Spoils System

Supreme Court Decision Abolishing NRA Had Little Effect on Workers Employed in Large Organized Industries.

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a recent public statement, declared that the death blow to the NRA "not only hit wage earners, but also crippled the national effort to reduce unemployment and achieve a balanced and lasting recovery." Deprived of the protection given them by the industry-wide standards, enforced under the NRA, the workers had to rely entirely upon the economic strength of their organizations to preserve such gains.

It will be recalled that the United States Supreme Court, in its far-reaching decision in the NRA case, confined itself to the letter of the law and to nothing else. To quote from their decree:

"It is not the province of the Supreme Court to consider the economic advantages, or disadvantages, of such a centralized system. It is sufficient to say that the Federal constitution does not provide for it."

So, the NRA went into the discard.

Taking the Supreme Court literally at its own word, in its reference to the limitations of the Constitution, the remedy would seem to lie in an amendment to the Constitution. The high court has pointed out the way. Congress and the country at large can do the rest.

But, in the meantime, the way is open for the renewal of unfair practices on the part of manufacturers and employers, in general, who were restrained from so doing while the NRA was in effect. Gen. Hugh S. Johnson, former head of the NRA, plainly charged that decent living standards for labor already were running out "like the sands from an hour-glass!"

This view is concurred in by an official declaration of the A. F. of L. which gave some startling facts upon the whole industrial situation, as practically reversed and set back under the abolition of the NRA. The statement says:

"At least one million wage earners throughout the nation have been adversely affected by the lengthening of hours and the cutting down of wages. Child labor has been increased in many cases supplanting adult workers. Industrial exactions, such as the stretch-out, doubling up of work, the speeding up of machinery and other forms of exploitation, have been renewed."

Against all this reactionary system the workers have but the power of organization as an offset. Wherever Labor is organized, conditions established by NRA have been maintained. The processes of law and of legislation are slow; but organization is instantly available, anywhere, at any time. The more the workers feel the weight of oppression, the more they will, or should, recognize the value of organization. That is the lesson of the wiping out of the old spoils system of industry.

Question Is: When Will Business Deliver Jobs?

U. S. Chamber of Commerce President Says Industry Will Take Care of 14 Million Unemployed If Left Alone.

Harry Sibley, president of the anti-labor Chamber of Commerce of the United States, declares that recovery is near and the only thing necessary to make it a fact is for the Federal Government to eliminate itself from those activities which regulate or control business and leave American industrial and financial dictators free to apply the same reprehensible practices which precipitated the stock market crash of 1929 and the business depression.

"Excessive public spending" is preeminent among the government policies which Mr. Sibley insists should be attenuated. From previous declarations we know that in this connection Mr. Sibley has his malicious eye fixed on the $4,800,000,000 which Congress appropriated last year for various forms of relief for the millions of jobless whom the business cohorts threw into the streets without the least consideration for their welfare.

There are now over 11,000,000 able-bodied working men and women in the jobless army. About 3,500,000 others are being temporarily provided for on WPA works projects by what Mr. Sibley calls "excessive public spending".

The unemployment problem is the most expensive problem which the Government is trying to solve. If Mr. Sibley and his business associates throughout the United States will agree to provide employment at reasonable wages for the 3,500,000 jobless now on Federal work relief, the largest element in the Government's "excessive spending" will automatically stop.

The important question is, "When will business deliver the jobs?"

HELPING DISPLACED WORKERS

According to Representative James M. Mead of New York, it is estimated that labor-saving machines in the window-glass industry have thrown 200,000 men out of work. The tremendous demand for window glass for automobiles has resulted in practically complete automatic production in this industry. For example, three men tending machines are turning out the work formerly done by 100 men. What are the 97 displaced men going to do? Shorten hours, increase wages, and create agencies and policies to guarantee jobs. We must do it!

"High" Textile Wages

The determination of many employers to keep wages at a point so low that the workers are unable to buy a decent living for themselves and their families is pointedly brought to the front in the opposition of the textile manufacturers and their journalistic supporters to the Ellenbogen bill, designed to stabilize labor conditions in the textile industry.

The bill stipulates that wages paid "common or unskilled" labor shall not be less than $15 per week of 35 hours and that clerical and office employes shall be paid not less than $15 per week of 40 hours. Minimum wages for semi-skilled and skilled workers would be determined by a national textile commission after a thorough investigation of conditions in the industry and the requirements of the employes. Regional differentials in wage rates would be abolished and wages above the minimum would be subject to negotiations between the organized workers and the mill owners.

It is obvious that the minimum wage of $15 per week prescribed by the bill will purchase only a very modest living for the workers. Nevertheless, the New York Journal of Commerce, spokesman for the mill owners, declares "the worst features of the bill are those which seek to impose increased wage costs on the industry," adding:

"At a time when textile manufacturers enjoy prospects of a substantial expansion of their sales because of the lifting of the processing taxes, the threat of a sharp increase in labor costs is especially discouraging."

The "prospects" which the Journal of Commerce says the manufacturers enjoy are the prospects of higher dividends brought about by increased business and the continuation of present low wage rates for the men and women who do the work in connection with the manufacture of textile products.

Profits, of course, are the paramount object mill owners have in view regardless of the unjust labor conditions imposed. But what must progressive citizens think of industrial leaders who fight a measure which proposes that minimum wages for the least protected groups in the industry shall be $15 per week?

George V Was a King Who Was Friendly With His People

George V, King of Great Britain, Emperor of India, head of the British Commonwealth of Nations, is dead in his 71st year. He was born in June, 1865.

There is one paragraph in the king's last Christmas speech to his empire over the radio which the briefest sketch of him must quote or be incomplete. He is speaking for the moment of his silver jubilee, the 25th anniversary of his coming to the throne. Here are his words:

"How could I fail to note in all the rejoicing, not merely respect for the throne, but a warm and generous remembrance of the man himself who, may God help him, has been placed upon it? It is this personal link between me and my people which I value more than I can say."

He was absolutely loyal to the obligations of his position. "The King reigns, but does not govern", is the English maxim. He knew that the supreme power in Britain rests with the British people, and is exercised through Parliament. The King, indeed, might well be called the head of the British civil service, who carries over from government to government the leadership of the routine work of the nation, but never interferes with the shaping of its policy.

Under his reign, the British Empire completed its change to the British Commonwealth of Nations. No other name quite expresses this union of Britain, Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa in a loose federation, where each part has complete independence, but all act together if a crisis becomes severe enough. While this growth was going on long before, the tact and unfailing loyalty of George made the transition easier.

George V was a king who was friendly with his people; and perhaps that is his best epitaph. There has been little competition for that description among earlier monarchs; and though some have tried to be friendly to their people, the sense of companionship was lacking. George V goes to his rest with genuine and well-earned affection of his people.

Max Edward VIII enjoy the same affection when his turn comes.

Labor Relations Board is Upheld by D. C. Court

Justice Jesse C. Adkins, in the District of Columbia Supreme Court, refused to issue preliminary injunctions restraining the National Labor Relations Board from holding an election of the employes of the Santa Cluy Cotton Mills of East Point, Ga., to determine whether the local union of the United Textile Workers of America should represent the workers in collective bargaining.

Two suits were instituted again, the board a number of weeks ago by Mrs. Lola Echols, an employe of the plant, sought an injunction restraining the board from holding the election. The company also asked for an injunction against the election.

Mrs. Echols claimed the election would deprive her of her alleged constitutional rights to bargain individually with the company. The company claimed it would be deprived of the right to make individual contracts for labor if the election resulted in union shop conditions.

Frederick H. Wood, who was chief counsel in the Schecter poultry case which was the basis for the action of the United States Supreme Court in declaring the National Recovery Act unconstitutional, represented both the company and Mrs. Echols in the proceedings before Justice Adkins.

It was announced that Justice Adkins' decision denying the injunctions would be appealed to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

AL SMITH'S NAME BOOED AT NAT'L MINERS' CONFAB

While Mention of Roosevelt Was Greeted With Tumultuous Applause at Annual Convention of United Mine Workers of America.

President John L. Lewis Flays Billion-Dollar Dinner, Referring to Smith as Having Performed "Like a Gibbering Political Jackanapes"—Reports Anthracite and Bituminous Workers Are 95 Per Cent Organized, and That Union is in Good Financial Condition—Urges Supreme Court Curb.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15 (ILNS).—Opening the convention of the United Mine Workers of America with 1,716 delegates in Constitution Hall here, President John L. Lewis:

1—Poured burning sarcasm all over Alfred E. Smith.

2—Praised President Roosevelt as a great humanitarian President;

3—Said the United Mine Workers are stronger in membership and finances than ever;

4—Paid biting respects to the A. F. of L. Executive Council "on the burning sands of Florida"; and

5—Warned that the Guffey Act might be declared unconstitutional.

Smith's Name Booed

Smith's name was greeted with boos. Mention of Roosevelt was greeted with cheers in which, by careful observation, about 99 out of each 100 joined.

"I once heard Alfred E. Smith say in a conference that the workers of his ward on the East Side of New York could neither eat nor burn the Constitution. That was when he honestly represented the workers of the East Side. I venture to say that the workers of our country feel today as Alfred E. Smith said the workers of his ward then felt," said Lewis.

Liberty League Dinner Flayed

The "billion dollar dinner" of the Liberty League and its star speaker, former Governor Smith, were the main objects of attack in the opening address. Here, Lewis said, were the enemies of labor before whom Smith performed "like a gibbering political jackanapes," proclaiming that in such company he was "completely happy and comfortable".

In their report to the convention, President Lewis, Vice President Philip Murray and Secretary-Treasurer Thomas Kennedy urged legislation curbing the Supreme Court's powers. The report said:

"The Supreme Court exercises the power to declare acts of Congress void as unconstitutional. This power was entered upon and is yet exercised on the premise that such a judgment should not be pronounced unless the act is unconstitutional beyond reasonable doubt. A reasonable doubt has been defined as the doubt of a reasonable man. Bills are now pending in Congress to give reality to that fiction by requiring greater unanimity on the part of the Court in exercising its great veto powers. We favor such legislation, believing it would augment rather than detract from the dignity of that august tribunal and transfer the exercise of judicial control of legislation to a sounder basis and a higher plane.

Miners 95 Per Cent Organized

"Wherein the Constitution itself must be amended to permit Congress to legislate with respect to matters of national interest beyond effective state control the United Mine Workers should favor such amendments."

The joint report described gains made for union miners during the last few years and criticized social security legislation for not being generous enough.

"The records of the United Mine Workers show that 95 per cent of all workers in the anthracite and bituminous coal industries are now members of our union," the report said. "To make possible the perfection of our work in this field we must continue our efforts to organize the remaining 5 per cent into the union. These non-union workmen still live in virtual peonage. Their lower wage standards, longer hours and bad conditions of employment constitute a menace to the stability of our wage structure, through the use of price cutting and other unfair trade practices on the part of their non-union employers."

Wage Policy to Be Decided

Inasmuch as the present bituminous wage contracts between miners and operators will expire March 31, 1937, the convention will decide upon the wage policy to be followed in the negotiation of new agreements to take the place of the present contracts upon expiration. The wage contract in the anthracite industry will expire on March 31, 1936. At a convention of anthracite delegates, held in Washington last December, new demands were adopted as a basis for negotiations of a new agreement in that branch of the industry, and this international convention will be called upon to ratify the action of the anthracite convention.

Negotiations between the union and the anthracite operators will be held in New York, starting some time in February. A policy and program for future legislation will also command the attention of the delegates.

Pennsylvania Reaps Big Profit on Liquor Sales

The Liquor Control Board of Pennsylvania reported that the 1935 sales in State liquor stores reached the large total of $55,821,323.04, which represents an increase of $14,617,375 over the total for 1934.

The profits of the stores are earmarked for the recipients of unemployment relief, old-age assistance and blind pensions.

Although detailed figures on profits made during the calendar year have not been completed, it was officially estimated that they will approximate $8,000,000, compared with $5,000,000 in 1934.

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR

Produced in Portland
By Portland Workers

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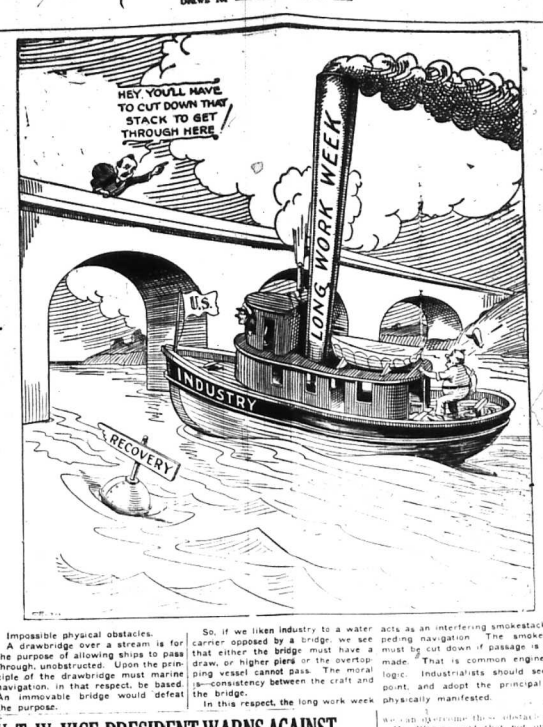
The Bridge and the Craft!

Drawn for LABOR by John M. Hess



Impossible physical obstacles. A drawbridge over a stream is for the purpose of allowing ships to pass through, unobstructed. Upon the principle of the drawbridge we must marine navigation, in that respect, be based. An immovable bridge would defeat the purpose.

So, if we liken industry to a water carrier opposed by a bridge, we see that either the bridge must have a draw, or higher piers or the overtopping vessel cannot pass. The moral is consistency between the craft and the bridge.

In this respect, the long work week acts as an interfering smokestack, impeding navigation. The smokestack must be cut down if passage is to be made. That is common engineering logic. Industrialists should see the point, and adopt the principal thus physically manifested.

U. T. W. VICE-PRESIDENT WARNS AGAINST TOO MUCH ACTION ALONG POLITICAL LINES AT R. I. COUNCIL MEETING

Horace A. Riviere Tells Delegates at Providence Meeting Union's Progress Must Not be Sacrificed to Satisfy Political Desires—Favors Political Party But This Must be Developed by State Branch—Urges All Locals to Affiliate With State Federation and Central Bodies.

Providence, R. I., February 15 — International officers of the United Textile Workers of America, although committing themselves to the Labor Party program, warned textile union members at a meeting of the Rhode Island Textile Council that "we must move carefully lest we wreck union treasuries and defeat the purpose of the political movement."

Meeting in the North End Citizens' Club, the delegates from 32 local unions heard Vice-President Horace A. Riviere and International Executive Board Member John H. Powers declare that the enactment of proper legislation should be the union's first concern.

Mr. Riviere referred to the nation-wide movement for the passage of the Ellenbogen Bill, and which was outlined in detail by Mr. Powers.

"I am in favor of a Labor Party," Mr. Riviere said, "because the International convention is committed to such a policy. However, we cannot have a Labor Party in a day and we must move carefully. This Labor Party movement should be self-supporting and if we are not careful we will be taking money from our union treasuries for political activities. We must move carefully lest we wreck our union treasuries and defeat the purpose of the political movement."

Not knowing that a few minutes before he entered the hall, the legislative committee had announced that a group known as the "progressive members of the American Federation of Labor" had made plans for a meeting to be held February 9 to hold a "caucus" for the convention called by the State Branch, A. F. of L., for March 8, Vice-President Riviere told the delegates "there can be but one leadership for a Labor Party in this State and that leadership shall be the State Branch."

Mr. Powers, supporting Vice-President Riviere in the movement for a substantial Labor Party and suitable legislation, declared: "We should not be interested in any individual, whether he be the governor, lieutenant-governor or a street sweeper. We should be interested in Labor legislation and its passage. It is time that we realized this and sought passage of this legislation without attaching ourselves to the kite-tail of any political party." He further stated he believed that the Labor Party movement was to be used in this connection and none other.

After the report had been received from the legislative committee and the purpose of the February meeting explained, Mr. Powers stated that "it should be clearly understood that the Labor Party should not be a Textile Party." Members of the legislative committee, however, explained that the "progressives" included A. F. of L. groups from all crafts.

Organizer Joseph Sylvia then presented his resignation as a member of the legislative committee. In view of the annual election at the February meeting, to be held in East Greenwich, action on the resignation was deferred.

Industrial Unionism

Appealing for support for a greater movement for the adoption of the industrial form of organization in preference to craft unionism, Vice-President Riviere urged the locals to become affiliated with the Central Federated Unions in addition to the State Branch, in order that the opposition to vertical organization manifested at the last national convention of the American Federation of Labor may be changed.

"Get these organizations to go on record for industrial unions. They may be opposed to the plan, but if it is explained to them in the proper light they may be converted. There is no question in my mind but that the success of the organization movement in the textile industry depends greatly on the vertical system of unionism. Of course, there will be opposition from others outside of the labor movement but with sufficient strength we can overcome the obstacles."

Mr. Riviere said that not only in the case of the industrial unions but in all other labor matters there should be a closer relationship between all A. F. of L. unions. Many times the textile workers have not received the consideration they believed they should from other union groups, but this was entirely due to the fact that they have neglected to affiliate and for this reason were not in a position to stand up for their policies."

To Aid WPA Workers

The Council voted to assist the No. Smithfield WPA workers in their movement for equalization of wages on all projects, after this action was asked in a communication signed by Newton A. Payne, secretary of the No. Smithfield Social Club.

Mr. Powers, who led the movement for the action, said that a similar campaign was being conducted in Lincoln and Cumberland, and that public funds were being sought to finance the project.

The Council unanimously endorsed Mr. Powers for the Labor member of the three-man commission to be set up in the interest of unemployment insurance.

It was voted to hold the next meeting on February 16th in East Greenwich with Harold Alderson, president, presided at the meeting.

$11.63 FOR 66-HOUR WEEK vs. $32.75 FOR 40 HOURS, IS THE ANSWER TO CRITICS OF PRES. ROOSEVELT AND NEW DEAL

The American Liberty League, the Fletchers, Pickens, Dickinsons and other opponents of the New Deal, are powerfully strong and it is certain their arguments are having considerable influence over a certain element, who, although having benefitted materially from the New Deal, are so politically prejudiced or so terribly dumb that they swallow hook, line and sinker, all the propaganda launched by New Deal opponents.

A good demonstration of this occurred during the week, when the writer happened to be present at an occasion where half a dozen small business men and executives were discussing the New Deal and lauding the efforts of its opponents in bringing about its defeat. They applauded the decisions of the Supreme Court which abolished the NRA and the AAA, and expressed hope that the Wagner Labor Relations Act, the Social Security Act, and other New Deal legislation would meet a similar fate.

Asked how they had fared during the past two years, or since the NRA went into effect, they all answered that business had greatly improved, several of those present stating the past year had been the first they had not been "in the red" since 1930. They all agreed the NRA had done a lot of good, but that it had now served its purpose and, aping the statements of representatives of big business, declared that "business should now be left alone to carry on without government interference".

Adding to Army of Unemployed

"If Roosevelt and the present Democratic Congress should be defeated at the coming general election, you realize, of course, that all New Deal policies, such as the WPA, PWA and other projects launched to assist the 11 or more millions of unemployed will be junked, and what do you suggest doing for taking care of this vast surplus of unemployed?" they were asked.

"Oh! We don't know, but have ample faith that if industry is left to work out its own problems, everything will be hunkydory," was their reply.

"But, there is a serious situation existing, and opponents of the New Deal have absolutely nothing to offer as a solution," they were told by the writer. "Can't you see that this opposition emanates wholly from big financial and industrial interests, and that it is based on the fact that they would be compelled, through increased income taxes, to pay a large portion of the costs of manufacturing products now produced by unemployed?

"You must realize that any change that will cause three or four millions of workers to be returned to the ranks of the employed will be so much less money in circulation and that you, and you and you will be the sufferers in business volume."

On Verge of Bankruptcy

"Do you want to return to such days as we went through in 1933, when unemployment and low wages caused you to worry as to how you were going to continue in business for more than a month or six weeks?" the writer asked.

Here, the writer gave an example to demonstrate the difference in conditions in 1933, just prior to the inauguration of the NRA, when he told of a worker employed as a weaver, who drew $11.63 for a 66-hour week. "Last week," he said, "this young man, who is employed in a nearby mill, told me in the presence of another person, that he had received $32.75 for doing the same kind of work, but in 40 hours' time.

"Can you now see why you business men are better off than you were in 1933?" he asked. "This is only one case. There are millions of similar cases throughout the country, and still you are aping those who, though they benefitted to the extent of hundreds of millions, are bending every effort to put Roosevelt and the New Deal out of commission.

"Of course, you don't understand, or you wouldn't permit yourselves to talk that kind of stuff. Wake up! Read and study accomplishments. Don't take for granted what you read in newspapers which employ expert writers for launching poisonous propaganda, and you'll find yourselves thinking along other lines."

The writer's modesty will not permit expressing his opinion regarding the manner in which his remarks were received. Let it be known, however, that he felt elated over the effect which his words had upon his hearers.

PRIMARY TEST OF WAGNER-CONNERY LABOR DISPUTES LAW BRINGS INJUNCTION AGAINST NATIONAL BOARD'S DECISIONS

Principal Question at Issue Regards Business Carried On By Two Firms Who Sought Injunction—Will Probably Be Referred to United States Supreme Court for Final Decision.

The Wagner-Connery Labor Disputes Act has come in for its first court test, in Boston, in the case of the National Labor Relations Board in controversy with two shoe manufacturing concerns. The Federal Court has handed down an injunction in favor of two manufacturers who had been cited before the Labor Relations Board for alleged infringement of the provisions of the Wagner-Connery Act. The injunction is sweeping in its terms and serves notice upon Labor of a fundamental finish fight.

The suit was at the instance of the Shoe and Leather Workers' Union, which is not affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and who complained of discrimination and the fostering of the so-called company union, to the detriment of the free right to organize on the part of the workers.

In granting the temporary injunction, Federal Judge Elisha H. Brewster announced that he would consider making the injunction permanent. It was the contention of the Lloyd Shoe Company, of Lynn, and the A. C. Lawrence Leather Company, of Peabody, that their Constitutional property rights were violated by the new law and that the Supreme Court would be appealed to, if necessary.

In its broad aspects, this is a test case for the doing away with unfair practices on the part of manufacturers. The company union, especially, has been a perpetual source of strife for decades past. The Wagner-Connery Act bans the company union, which fact alone is sufficient to bring resistance from the labor antagonizing employers.

By a coincidence, it happens that both plants in question are located in the district represented by Congressman Connery, co-author of the law which bears his name.

A crucial point in the controversy is whether or not the contention of the two shoe companies that their business is intra-state and not inter-state, shall be sustained by a higher court. On the other hand, the workers contend that shoe manufacturing is interstate commerce, subject to regulation by Congress. This is a generally accepted principle of law.

EMPLOYERS' YELLS ABOUT WPA ARE SPIKED BY HOPKINS

WPA Director Gives Answer to Harpies Who Seek Publicity

Denounces as Sheer Fabrication Brainstorm Statements That 25 Per Cent of Assignments From Relief Rolls to WPA Jobs Do Not Result in Placements—Says Very Few Workers Have Refused PWA Jobs.

Every little while, professional harpies, whose opposition to relief of any sort for the victims of unemployment is an obsession, jump into the limelight of publicity with the charge that a large number of the millions of out-of-work refuse even the low-wage jobs provided by the Works Progress Administration.

A scream of this sort recently featured in the daily papers brought forth a strong denunciation from Harry L. Hopkins, Works Progress Administrator, who declared the reports were sheer fabrication. He said the brainstorms were quite likely based on the fact that 25 per cent of the assignments of the unemployed from relief rolls to WPA jobs do not result in placements. The superficial conclusion, he added, is that the 25 per cent have refused to accept the jobs and that their refusal results from their disinclination to perform work in return for relief.

In spiking this nonsense, Mr. Hopkins specifically stated that "not one worker in a hundred has shown preference for relief rather than work," adding:

"Very few workers have deliberately refused to accept WPA jobs.

"Men who fail to report to work projects because they have already secured private jobs, or because they are ill or disabled, or because they fail to receive the notice, can scarcely be called shirkers."

Declaring that "about three-fourths of all WPA job assignments result in placements on work projects," Mr. Hopkins stressed the point that the remaining one-fourth are not "refusals of jobs."

He said the Social Research Division of the Works Progress Administration has thoroughly investigated the charges of job refusal in many communities. The studies revealed legitimate reasons for the failure of 25 per cent of the relief roll unemployed to take WPA work.

An average of about 10 per cent were already employed in private industry when they received the WPA job notice. In some cities this percentage was as high as 18 per cent. It was found, moreover, that a considerable number were either ill or had been erroneously certified as eligible for WPA employment despite the existence of serious physical handicaps, and that others had become unemployable since their certification.

The reasons, not involving unwillingness to work, for failure to accept jobs included: inability to leave infants or children at home alone, excessive distance from home to project, death, already employed on a WPA project, and unfitness for the job assigned.

The recurrence of these unfounded charges against the integrity of the 3,500,000 working men and women who have received relief rolls jobless may have a slight basis in the utterly erroneous view that the unemployed never get sick themselves, never have physical handicaps, are always fitted to perform any kind of labor regardless of the kind and amount of energy required, and never have sickness in their families, or, if they do, can let their sick dependents look after themselves.

The truth is, of course, that jobless workers are even more subject than employed workers to all the hazards affecting the life and health of themselves and their dependents, but these unavoidable delinquencies are not taken into consideration by the anti-social elements who regard the victims of unemployment as vagrants deserving public condemnation.

These attacks on the unemployed always quiet down a bit after the Works Progress Administration shoots the charges full of holes, but persistently reappear with large accessions of other anti-labor slush.

In refutation of all this baloney, Works Progress Administrator Hopkins, with the indisputable facts before him, definitely declares that "not one worker in a hundred has shown preference for relief than work."

How Patricia Kelly Secured a Job as A Typist on WPA

Eighteen-year-old Patricia Kelly, petite, dark and easy to look at, recently introduced herself at Detroit headquarters of the Works Progress Administration by applying a job as fireman in a pick-and-shovel gang.

She was within her rights, too.

"Under the rules, one member of a family has a right to take the place of another who has been called to work and is ill.

"Pat is ill an order calling father to work," she said, "He can't come. He is going to the hospital. Mother is in the hospital now and I have two brothers and a sister to look out for. I read in the paper that one member of a family could substitute for another in WPA work. Let me have my dad's place."

"As foreman of a pick-and-shovel gang working in th cstreet!" gasped the official.

The girl nodded, suppressing her tears, her handkerchief tightly knotted in her hand. "If you don't want to make me a foreman," she suggested "just give me a shovel."

"Have you ever handled a shovel?" asked the official, quizzically.

Patricia was not in a mood for joking. "I've often shoveled coal into our furnace," she insisted.

"You had better go home and wait for an opening in a woman's project," advised the official.

"I need work now," the girl protested, "and I believe that I am entitled to it under the rules."

"Since you insist," admitted the official, "I'll have to talk this over with somebody."

The official conference brought Mrs. Cecil R. Chittenden, Michigan State Director of Federal Writers' Projects, to the scene. Glance from girl to man is a blue eyes, and she capitulated. "I bet she can do more than shovel coal into a furnace," Mrs. Chittenden ventured.

"Yes, Patricia could. She was a graduate of Fordson High School and worked on the editorial staff of the 'Tower Tribune', the school publication. Furthermore, she was a very good typist, too. Would you like to test a pound a typewriter for me as use a pick and shovel in the street?" asked the State Director.

"I'd rather," the visitor agreed.

"Then, I have a job for you," announced Mrs. Chittenden.

"Patricia was overjoyed. "Now I can bring my mother home and see that my father gets hospital treatment," she declared after the details of her employment had been fixed up.

Patricia may not write original articles for the "American Guide", the Government's forthcoming five-volume travel handbook, but she will have an important part in preparing the perfected copy of the writers after the state headquarters editors have made their corrections.

The Kelly family lives at 7319 Nockel Avenue in Dearborn, near Detroit. Mrs. Kelly is suffering from a serious illness and has been receiving treatment at the Henry Ford Hospital. Edward Kelly, the father, who has been out of work three years, has a stomach malady. The children in the family, besides Patricia, are William, 16; Robert, 14, and Betty Lou, 16.

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A. F. OF L. WANTS CONGRESS TO INVESTIGATE LABOR-DISPLACING MACHINERY

Executive Council of Federation, at Miami Conference, Declares "Technological" Developments Held Responsible for Large Portion of Jobless Army, Now Numbering More Than Eleven Millions—Bottle Blowers Are Hard Hit.

Miami, Fla., Feb. 15 (AFL)—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, in session here, announced that organized labor would ask Congress to enact a resolution providing for a thorough investigation of labor-displacing machinery and methods in American industry as they affect opportunities for employment. It is the belief of the Council that a large portion of the present jobless army has been thrown out of work by the wholesale introduction of so-called "technological" improvements in our production system.

The Council had, before it considerable data regarding displacement in skilled trades caused by the introduction of automatic machinery and methods designed to increase the output of the workers. Under this head ing emphasis was placed on speed-up and rationalization systems which corporation executives have applied in various industries, notably in the manufacture of steel products and automobiles.

Bottle Blowers Hard Hit

In announcing the Council's proposal for the investigation William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, cited the misfortune of the glass bottle blowers as an outstanding illustration of the havoc which machinery plays with work opportunities. "The glass bottle blowers, he said, were at one time the "aristocrats" of the glass industry. Then came automatic machinery manufacturing apparatus with the result that these skilled workers were ruthlessly thrown into the jobless army.

Attention was also drawn to the havoc which machinery has worked in the cigar making industry, where many skilled employes have been displaced, and steel puddling, where new methods have destroyed the jobs of highly skilled puddlers.

In order to lay a foundation for the proposed Federal inquiry, Mr. Green said he had appointed a committee on technological unemployment consisting of the 15 vice-presidents of the A. F. of L., whose fields include broad sections of American industry. The members of the committee will make their individual reports to the Council, and provision will be made for making the material available for the inquiry.

Special Conference Will be Called

In order to enlist the entire labor movement in the consideration of the technological unemployment question, the Executive Council authorized Mr. Green to convene a conference of the officials of the 110 national and international unions affiliated with the A. F. of L. The officials would be asked to assist in the comprehensive inquiry, the purpose of which would be to ascertain the number of workers whose services have become unnecessary to employers because of the substitution of "labor-saving" machinery and methods for the labor power of working men and women.

"The Executive Council," Mr. Green said, "is convinced that there is a growing need and an increasing demand for the shorter work week in order to distribute the work among those displaced by technological unemployment," adding: "That is the only way through which the pool of

Just Between Ourselves

By HENRY NORFOLK

THE SOVIET EXPERIMENT
Will It Mean Anything to America?

"Our senses narrow and our reason frail,
Life short and truth a gem which loves the deep,
And all things weighed in customs falsest scale;"

Without Fear or Prejudice

The interrogation used under the primary heading of this story is so filled with potential possibilities that one may try to discuss it without fear or prejudice and by such means succeed in gaining some real knowledge of the most momentous experiment ever tried in the known history of the world.

The extent of the government of the Soviet Republics stretches over a vast territory in Eastern Europe and Northern Asia, with an area exceeding one-sixth of the land surface of the globe.

The length of the frontier line by land is 2800 miles in Europe and nearly 20,000 miles in Asia. It has more than one hundred nationalities of different racial origin and one long it will have two hundred million human beings as subjects. From thousands of posts from the Caspian Sea to the Pacific Ocean flies the Red Flag of the new world.

Since I started studying the subject under discussion I have read almost every book in the Providence Public Library for and against the Soviets. I am reluctantly compelled to make the naive confession that before I started this study I never thought there were so many liars in the world. An instance: One day the New York Times published a wire from Berlin stating that Stalin had been assassinated and the Red Army was in revolt. The New York Times' editor wondered what Walter Duranty, the Times' correspondent, was doing that he had not sent an account of the great "scoop." Next day, Duranty sent word that Stalin was looking well and feeling well, that he (Duranty) had spoken to him a few months before he sent the wire. Duranty added that the Red Army seemed to be as strong as ever.

When you read a dispatch like the one indicated from Berlin, and you do not read the contradiction in the same newspaper, you are apt to conclude, brother, that Stalin is dead and the Red Army is still in revolt. When you read denunciations of Russia—some part probably true and some part certainly false—let us pause for a moment and listen to some things said about this Republic when she started to function and take her place among the nations of the world.

Nothing was left unsaid that could be said against her; even the theologians delved in the cry, for when the American Episcopalians needed the confirmation of a bishop the ecclesiastical authorities of the Anglican church refused to perform the rite. The refusal was serious inasmuch as two-thirds of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were members of the Episcopalian church. The blow was indirectly aimed at the young Republic. Even so late as 1861, in reporting the first battle of Bull Run, the London Times' correspondent sent to the exulting hordes of Europe a report of such a character that it remains to this day a classic of mendacity and false prophecy.

Two Great Books

The two best books I have read on the question, are: "Through the Russian Revolution," by A. R. Williams, an American correspondent; and "British Agent," by R. H. Bruce Lockhart, a diplomat, an agent or just a clerk of the British legation (he never was just what position he held). Lord Balfour in the English House of Commons, told many lies (of course, diplomatic lies) as to the position held by Lockhart. Williams was unreservedly a friend of the Soviets. He had an entree to their meetings. He was present at the great meeting in the Military Academy when the Soviets proclaimed themselves masters of Russia. It is a mistake to suppose the people were communists; 85 per cent of the Russian people were illiterate, few had heard the name of Marx, still fewer had read his books.

The one magic word was Revolution, supplemented afterwards by "Peace and the Land." Williams relates how Kerensky sent an army to the front badly equipped, the men with bleeding feet and little food. The Germans promptly killed thirty thousand of them. This was the end of Kerensky and the effort to make Russia a land of "bourgeois democracy." Back from the trenches came the soldiers in hundreds of thousands—they did not understand why millions of their comrades had died—but they did intend to know for what henceforth they should fight. The returning soldiers became the nucleus of the Red Army.

Enter Lenin and The Bolshevic Passengers From Germany

Lenin had hitherto been in hiding. Now he is on the scene again and up to the day of his death became the pivot on which every move was made for the "regeneration" of the Russian people. Of the stupidity of the German government in dumping a load of Bolsheviks into Russia, I need say nothing, except that it is still greeted with sardonic laughter by the Soviets and is a huge jest to the rest of the world.

Volumes might be written of the events which succeeded the coming into power of Lenin and his associates. The land was stricken with famine, the cultivators of the soil had died by millions in the trenches; the reactionary government had released the criminals, who, when joined by other elements of a like nature, were robbers at night and drunken desperadoes by day; typhoid took its dreadful toll, thousands of children made orphans by the war roved the streets hungry and homeless.

Without proceeding further in chronological order, it may be stated the Soviet leaders faced a world in arms. White armies, Allied armies, and a long series of fakes and falsifications. One need not hold a brief for the Soviets by saying that the victory of the soldiers, sailors and workmen of Russia has few parallels in history. It was not a communistic victory, it was a victory of Revolution!

Enter the British Agent

Bruce Lockhart was what is known in England as a scholiast; he believed in that venerable myth that the battle of Waterloo was won on the playing fields of Eton, and that any spot outside the British Empire did not amount to much. But Lockhart was no fool. Except when he was having a fine time drinking vodka with the boys or playing hell with the Jewess Juliet, he made a thorough study of brother Bolshevik and mastered the Russian patois. By a strange paradox those who understood him least were his own government, whose agent he was supposed to be.

The English government was constantly urging Lockhart to induce the Bolsheviks to fight the Germans, but this was precisely what the Bolsheviks did not intend to do, either to make the world safe for democracy or for any other "capitalist" adventure. Lockhart told his government so, but the high-browns in England did not believe him.

The English government sent all manner of men to assist him, including a lord. The assistants returned home sadder and wiser men. The best man the government sent was the brave old trades unionist, Will Thorne, who "felt like taking the diplomats in his hand and knocking their heads together". The whole thing ended in a fiasco, the English charged Lockhart with being a Bolshevik and the Russians arrested him on a charge of treason, then released him. That was the end of the British Agent and the efforts of the English government to induce the Russians to make the world safe for the British Empire.

A Real Scene in a Moscow Theater

A visitor from Chicago to Russia described an event of which he was a spectator. It was a gala night and the theater was crowded except the whole of the center aisle. That portion was reserved for the guests. Suddenly the thrill notes of a bugle rang, the doors were opened and in came hundreds of young men in military formation.

"What is this," asked the visitor of his friend.

"Those are trades unionists; they are the honor guests tonight."

"Honor guests, eh? What a story for the boys when I get home!"

An Imaginary Scene in a New York Theater

There are no limits to which one's imagination may not stray.

"Or drift with every emotion
Till the soul is a stringed lute
On which all winds can play!"

The scene is the New York Metropolitan Opera House. Except for a few reserved seats the theater is crowded. The audience impatiently awaits the coming guests. The moneyed ones in their opera garb, the doorkeepers toying with their pince-nez look bored; the artists assemble on the stage when the faint notes of a bugle are heard. The doors are opened, the orchestra plays an aria from "Riggoletto" in a slow tempo to keep step with the guests who have just come in. Preceded by two ushers, the first three are Gus McNamee, Frank Mahon and Freeman M. Saltus. The second three, being larger men, act as a rear guard; they are Billy Cantwell, Harry Norfolk and Billy Sullivan. Art paying homage to Labor!

Do you like the picture, brother? The story will be continued in next month's Labor News.

Mother of Vice-Pres. Riviere Dies After Lingering Illness

Death again has visited the family of Horace A. Riviere, vice-president of the U. T. W. of A.

Mrs. Henrietta (Lesvasseur) Riviere, his mother, was called to her final resting place last week after a lingering illness in a Manchester, N. H. hospital.

Born in Canada, Mrs. Riviere came to this country when a young woman. Although of a retiring nature, the deceased made a host of friends, who joined with the family in mourning her passing.

The funeral service was held in St. George's Church, Manchester, and after a high mass of requiem the body was interred beside her late husband in Mt. Calvary cemetery.

Besides Vice-President Riviere Mrs. Riviere is survived by another son, Ralph J. of St. Louis.

U. S. DISTRICT COURT UPHOLDS WAGNER-CONNERY LABOR RELATIONS ACT

Federal Judge Martin Rules Wagner-Connery Law "Is Consistent With the Declared Policy of Congress"—Refuses Stay Asked by Bag Company—Prefers to Concede Clear Right of Congress to Declare Its Legislative Policy in Its Own Words.

Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 15 (AFL)—Judge John D. Martin of the Federal District Court here gave a written opinion upholding the constitutionality of the Wagner-Connery Labor Relations Act of 1935 at the 1935 session of Congress. He declared that every provision of the Act "is consistent with the declared policy of Congress," adding:

"With the policy of the acts of Congress the courts have no concern."

The Labor Relations Act prohibits employers from interfering with, restraining or coercing employes in the exercise of the rights of self-organization and collective bargaining, from promoting or supporting financially any labor organization, from discriminating against trade union members in hire or tenure of employment, and from refusing to bargain collectively with the representatives of their employes. These anti-labor schemes are banned as "unfair labor practices."

The Labor Act came before Judge Martin in the case of the Bemis Bros. Bag Company of Bemis, Tenn. The firm asked for a stay order to prevent the National Labor Relations Board from holding an inquiry at Jackson, Tenn., on a complaint filed by the Bemis local of the United Textile Workers of America, charging the company with interfering with the rights of its employes to bargain collectively as set forth in the Labor Act. Judge Martin refused to grant the stay order.

"It would be utterly inconsistent," he said "with the firm principle held by this court to invade the powers of the legislative and executive department of the national government by staying the proceedings of an important executive board established by Act of Congress except upon a conviction reached by the court that such act is unconstitutional beyond the shadow of doubt."

Circuit Judge Otis of Kansas City recently held the Labor Act unconstitutional, claiming that it dealt with the individual employe as an "income factor." Judge Martin disagrees with this conception of the Act, which in essence places the workers into the legal right to organize in bona fide trade unions and carry on ordinary trade union activities and makes it illegal for employers to prevent or attempt to prevent workers from entering these rights freely and fully.

"This court," he said, "prefers to concede the clear rights of the Congress of the United States, within its constitutional authority, to declare its legislative policy in its own words."

Language used in Supreme Court decisions, Judge Martin added, impose upon the district court the duty "to resolve every intendment in favor of the constitutionality of an act of Congress before striking down its operation and effect."

RELATIONS BOARD SEEKS PROMPT TEST OF POWER BEFORE SUPREME COURT

Washington, D. C., Feb. 12 (AFL)—Nineteen injunctions issued by Federal judges against the enforcement of the Wagner-Connery Labor Disputes Act make it imperatively necessary for a prompt test of the status before the United States Supreme Court, according to a statement by J. Warren Madden, chairman of the National Labor Relations Board, in testimony before the Senate Appropriations Committee. The deficiency bill carrying funds to defray the expenses of the board.

Mr. Madden regretted the hostile attitude of the courts which have handled cases under the act. The board, he said, was in the position of having "district judges, who are directed by the statute not to adjudicate our cases, reach out with anxiety to get them."

His referring to the section of the act which confers on employers the right to challenge the decisions of the board before the Circuit Courts of Appeal, with the implication that district judges shall not interfere with any of the activities of the board until they reach the Circuit Court.

Mr. Madden claimed some district judges, including Judge Otis in Western Missouri, had enjoined the board from even holding hearings on complaints charging employers with violations of the act.

"The Circuit Court of Appeals," he added, "who are directed by the statutes to handle our cases expeditiously have great hesitation in doing anything with them."

Mr. Madden said he expected the case involving the Pennsylvania Greyhound Lines, which is set for argument before the Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia on March 2, would reach the Supreme Court in the near future.

He asked the Appropriations Committee to increase the item for the board's expenses for the remainder of the current fiscal year from $275,000 to $400,000.

He pointed out that the corporations which are contesting the Wagner Act in the courts employ the best law, very obtainable and that the board must be able to meet them with equally efficient counsel.

The Wagner Act which has brought this deluge of injunctions from Federal judges, guarantees the workers the right to organize in trade unions and prohibits certain "unfair labor practices" which employers most frequently use to nullify this right.

The act bans employers from interfering with or coercing employes in the exercise of their rights of self-organization and collective bargaining, from dominating or forming or financially supporting a labor organization, from discriminating in the hire of employment against union members from discharging or otherwise discriminating against employes for filing charges or giving testimony under the Wagner Act, and from refusing to bargain collectively with the representatives of their employes.

OGBURN URGES PERMANENT PROGRAM OF PUBLIC WORKS TO STABILIZE EMPLOYMENT

Says PWA, Although Handicapped by Late Start and Wrong Methods of Financing, Is Nevertheless One of the Bright Lights of Roosevelt Administration—Secretary Ickes' Labor Policy Praised.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 12 (AFL)—A permanent public eworks program, financed by income taxes and excess profits taxes, was advocated by Charles Ogburn, who was precisely what the American Federation of Labor, in addressing the Town Hall here.

"I favor an effective Federal public works program, primarily as a method of stabilizing employment during periods of expansion as well as of depression, and a means of recovery," Mr. Ogburn said.

"Public works are not new," he said. "They are as ancient as history. The Tower of Babel was a public work brought to a premature end by the same thing which threatens Secretary Ickes' program—a confusion of babbling tongues. The wise administrators of imperial Rome knew well the civic value of public works. They constitute an enduring monument to Napoleon. The symmetric pattern of Washington's streets is an example of boondoggling by the Father of His Country.

PWA "Bright Light"

"Today the PWA, although handicapped by a late start and wrong methods of financing and having to see its funds taken away to support the improvised relief program in the WPA, and starved therefore of funds, is nevertheless one of the bright lights of the Roosevelt Administration to such an extent that we are now warranted in demanding a permanent public works program.

"The program should be confined to those projects which do not compete with private enterprise—at least those competing the least with private enterprise: schools, sewers, roads, power plants, and perhaps best of all, housing—at any rate slum clearance.

"Most private building on an extensive scale carries in its wake very harmful consequences in the credit inflation from the method of financing these building enterprises and in the sale to the public of large issues of bonds and debentures. The financing of public works can be so accomplished as to avoid such consequences as come from the absorption by the public of excessive bond issues.

Ickes' Labor Policy Praised

"The soundest method of financing public works is from income taxes and from excess profits taxes.

"I am impressed by Mr Ickes' selection of projects calculated to bring indirect employment in private industry to the extent of one in three times the number employed on the projects themselves, by his generally sound labor policy (with an exception here and there)—far sounder than Mr Hopkins' labor policy, and most of all by the high character of his administration of this great governmental agency."

Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes, also a speaker before the Town Hall, vigorously defended a great program of public works. He declared that nothing was so well designed to make jobs, put money in circulation and otherwise combat a major depression as a well planned, non-political works program.

House Committee to Probe Displacement of Men by Machines

Washington, D. C., Feb. 12 (ILNS).—Hearings will begin soon by a special House Labor sub-committee on a resolution of Rep. Vincent L. Palmisano of Maryland to require the Labor Department to furnish full information on the number of labor-saving devices put into use since 1912 and the number thrown out of employment as a result.

Chairman Connery of the House Labor Committee has promised prompt action.

"In the last few years, hundreds of millions of dollars have been spent for public works and relief projects, but the unemployment situation is not solved although public confidence is improved," Palmisano said.

He declared that his measure would disclose how many persons were unemployed in industry, commerce and agriculture as a result of labor-saving devices, which he believes, are the principal causes of the present situation.

Abolishment of NRA Affected More Than 9,000 Women Workers

The lot of women workers, under the NRA codes, was dealt with in a study by the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor, at Washington. Three lines of advance for working women, under the NRA—higher wages, shorter hours, and increased employment, are indicated by the report made to Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.

One of the most beneficial features of the NRA policy was the establishment of a 40-hour work week in about seven-tenths of the codes analyzed. Never before had such a widespread feature been proposed, or adopted. Benefitting by such a 40-hour code were women employed in such work as textiles, laundries, boots and shoes, cigars, cotton garments and other manufactures.

After the decision in the famous Schecter poultry case, the tide turned. Then ensued a cutting of wages and a lengthening of hours. There have been recorded about 9,000 such instances, as comprised in the study just completed and submitted to the Secretary of Labor at Washington.

As to Massachusetts, reports made by the Compliance Division, in relation to over 300 boot and shoe plants, showed wage cuts and hour increases, or both. The Women's Bureau is receiving numerous advices of threatened wage standards subsequent to the invalidation of the NRA.

THE LABOR NEWS. 50c A YEAR

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SELF-ASSERTION THROUGH VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATION ESSENCE OF DEMOCRACY

Strong Argument Advanced for Wagner-Connery Act, Declaring This Necessary for Workers' Economic Liberty

Author Quotes Emerson as Saying: "The Age of The Quadruped is to Go Out; The Age of the Brain and the Heart is to Come In"—Way to Move Now is "Recognition of Industrial Democracy" Which Means That the Problems Are No Longer the Problems of the Employer.

A profound analysis of the Wagner-Connery Labor Disputes Law has convinced Prof. Samuel M. Levin, head of the Sociology Department of Wayne University, that it is absolutely necessary to secure a measure of equality in collective bargaining with employers and is therefore a fundamental element of the workers' struggle for economic freedom.

Prof. Levin made his conclusions public in an address on "The Industrial Background of the National Labor Relations Act" before a two-day conference on the Act held recently at Detroit, Mich. under the auspices of the Educational Committee of the Michigan State Federation of Labor and the Wayne County Federation of Labor, together with the Detroit District Council of the United Automobile Workers of America. The Institute was the second of a series on the Labor Act to be held under the general auspices of the Workers Education Bureau with the cooperation of the American Federation of Labor.

The following is a synopsis of Prof Levin's address:

The National Labor Relations Act is a landmark in the development of the labor code. The law has a response to economic needs. Our economic society has been transformed by the impact of a variety of industrial developments and a succession of economic changes e g. business combinations concentration of economic power, the continued mechanization of industry mass production etc. These have greatly enhanced the power of the employing group in comparison with labor. Thus there is need for an adjustment to rectify existing inequalities or disparities

Such adjustments have taken place in the past as shown by the Interstate Commerce Act, the Workmen's Compensation Laws, the Securities Act etc. The Interstate Commerce Act of 1887 came into being because of the growing size and power of railroads, and the need to protect shippers and the general public against unfair practices, such as rebates, discrimination, oppressive rates, or pooling agreements.

Right to Organize Nullified

The right of labor to organize with the accompanying one of collective bargaining is nothing more than a paper right so long as employers can practically nullify it by injunctions, yellow dog contracts, the vicious man ewporing of industrials spies, the setting up of company dominated unions, or discrimination against laborers joining a union or promoting the organizing movement.

Neither organization nor collective bargaining is new in our history. Collective bargaining in the United States dates back to 1799, the period when economic life was much simpler than at present and when differences were less marked.

War Labor Board Cited

The program of the War Labor Conference Board, which established rules of the game for the capital-labor relations during the war, included the following statement with regard to the right of workers to organize and bargain collectively through chosen representatives: "This right shall not be denied, abridged, or interfered with by the employers in any manner whatsoever." Section 7 of the NLRA is an effort to convert this declaration into a reality, into something with a well-defined legal sanction. Certain practices which in the past have served to defeat or nullify the efforts of various labor groups to organize and bargain collectively are now stigmatized as unfair and as constituting grounds for charges with the Labor Relations Board or its regional representatives.

The need for the new kind of set up to promote the adjustment of relations between employers and workers is accentuated by the course of recent economic changes and trends

Inequality of Bargaining Power

1. The long-existing inequality of bargaining power between employers and workers is no longer a question of inequality. It is rather that in equality is on the increase as a result of the onward march of the combination movement, the concentration of economic power the automatization of industrial processes, and the growth of the power of finance capital in the United States. Thus in 1931 Prof G. C. Means has made a careful study of the place of giant industrial combinations in our economic system, wrote "Economists must think to a large extent in terms of the multiplicity of small competing elements of private enterprise."

Concentration of Capital

2. Whereas in the past war period, concentration of capital was on the increase, the labor organization movement was losing ground. Membership of all unions in 1920 was 5,100,000. In 1929 it had dropped to 4,331,000. There were further losses between 1930 and 1933. Thus American business, only slightly hampered by labor, had its day in court. Did it give us a new era? Did it transport us to the new world that Merle Thorp of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce was dreaming of in 1928?

Depression Maladjustments

3. The aims of organized labor must be visioned against the background of recent dislocation and maladjustment, viz. the decline of agriculture, collapse of banking, the investment scandals, unprecedented unemployment, and the web of complications affecting wages, income, credit, foreign trade, relief, etc. Some if these maladjustments are still uncured, and it is questionable as to whether capital without the unchecked cooperation of labor can take care of them.

Labor's Reserves Wasted

4. The waste of labor's reserve of trade insight, technical knowledge and service is an example of unpardonable shortsightedness and unconscionable blundering. So long as it continues, business will find itself walking upon a snare. The potentialities of labor for a better ordering of economic activity are of crucial importance to all parties, to capital and the public as well as to workers.

5. The evils resulting from a denial of labor's right to organize are many. The economic loss due to strikes is only a part of the harm done. There are other things to consider e. g., the loss of cooperation and of labor's resources for helpfulness in the solution of economic problems; the intensification of conditions that make for economic disorganization; the disposition to sporadic violence; the absence of a needed check to the kind of economic adventuring that has brought so much loss and suffering to the people of this country; the continued use of spies, private guards, constabulary; the absence of newspaper media for labor discipline, education, enlargement through social intercourse, etc.

Industrial Democracy

6. Industrial absolutism is a term used by Mr. Brandeis in his testimony before the Industrial Commission of 1916 to describe what President Roosevelt a few days ago called economic autocracy. The converse of industrial absolutism is industrial democracy. Mr. Brandeis pointed out that the end to which we must move "is a recognition of industrial democracy" and that means that the problems are no longer the problems of the employer but are in agreement with the views of other leading thinkers. The late Prof. C. H. Cooley, one of the leaders of sociological thought in this country, wrote more than a score of years ago: "Self-assertion through voluntary organization is of the essence of democracy"; he also said that freedom is impossible without organization

Develops Industrial Relations Principles

"The National Labor Relations Act," Prof. Levin concluded, "is a forward step of first importance in the elaboration of our principles of industrial relations. Not the least advantage is the official record of current methods in industry as shown by the facts brought to light in the Greyhound Lines, the Fruehauf Trailer Co. and the Brown Shoe Company cases.

"It was Emerson who said: "The age of the quadruped is to go out—the age of the brain and the heart is to come in.' We have had too much of the quadruped spirit in the industrial field. It is time for the new era to come in—that of the brain and the heart."

CAMPAIGN FOR INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION WILL CONTINUE UNLESS IT IS PROVEN ACTIONS ARE HARMFUL TO MOVEMENT

So Declares Secretary Charles P. Howard in Answer to Decree Issued by A. F. of L. Executive Council That Committee's Activities Are Not Conducive to the Best Interests of Organized Labor Movement.

At its meeting in Miami, Fla., which convened January 6, the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor devoted much time and attention to the activities of the Committee for Industrial Organization, formed after adjournment of the Atlantic City convention for the purpose of organizing an educational campaign among the unorganized and mass production and other industries.

The Committee is composed of executives of eight National and International Unions affiliated with the A. F. of L. John L. Lewis president of the United Mine Workers of America is chairman, and Charles P. Howard, president of the International Typographical Union, is secretary of the committee.

Since formation of the Committee, it has been apparent several members of the Executive Council have been much disturbed by its activities. During recent weeks there have been reports that when the Council assembled for its mid winter meeting it was expected that drastic action would be taken and that a heavy penalty would be imposed upon the members of the Committee, who constituted the majority that had conducted a contest in the Atlantic City convention to have the A. F. of L. adopt a more modern policy for organization.

As secretary of the Committee, Mr. Howard was invited to appear before the Executive Council at its Miami meeting. He was asked to explain the purposes and intent of the campaign upon which the Committee had engaged. After an extended discussion before the Council, it appeared some of the members entertained their views and the action finally taken was not nearly as drastic as had been expected, according to reports which leaked from earlier executive sessions.

Called Upon to Disband

After final action by the Council a statement was released to the press in which the Committee for Industrial Organization was called upon to disband, alleging that its activities "constitute a challenge to the supremacy of the American Federation of Labor". Fear was also expressed the activities of the Committee would result in dual organization and instead "the plans policies adopted at the convention" be carried out. Three members of the Executive Council were named as a committee to confer with the Committee for Industrial Organization.

Replying to the Executive Council's action, Mr. Howard made the following statement:

"The charge that our Committee is engaged in an illegal or improper activity is entirely unjustified. The A. F. of L. is composed of both craft and industrial unions. Charters have been and are being issued to both types of organizations. It is no more illegal or unethical to conduct a campaign for organization upon an industrial union basis than it is to promote organization upon a craft union basis. From time to time groups have cooperated to promote organization upon craft and trade union bases. At no time has the charge been made that such activities were illegal or improper.

Not Dual in Purpose

activities of the Committee "will ultimately become dual in purpose and character to the American Federation of Labor' or will 'constitute a challenge to the supremacy of the American Federation of Labor' is equally unfounded. There is no evidence or logic to support such a charge. The work of the committee is to inspire organization. Not one local, national or international charter has been issued by the committee. No union has been formed in opposition to the A. F. of L. or any affiliated [illegible] a condition there can possibly be a 'dual' movement in primacy of the Federation.

"The committee is [illegible] the membership of or creating charters from the Executive Council's appeal to [illegible] being 'dual unionism'. There is not a disposition to [illegible] praise the work of the [illegible] its merits but rather [illegible] program as being injurious and condemn it without fair consideration.

"I am confident the committee will give fair consideration to [illegible] respective suggestion members of the Council may make. The committee are responsible to [illegible] tives of International Unions [illegible] with the A. F. of L. [illegible] to its support

Urgent Need for Organization

We know there is urgent need for organization of the millions of unorganized workers in mass production industries. We know the opportunities [illegible] Congress the power to regulate commerce among the states and with foreign countries. The Supreme Court took occasion to make clear in the AAA decision that its function is 'to lay the article of the Constitution which is involved beside the Statute which is challenged and to decide whether the latter squares with the former'. When a case involving the constitutionality of the National Labor Relations Act is reviewed by the Supreme Court, it will therefore, be a question whether an action taken by the National Labor Relations Board squares with the commerce clause of the Constitution.

"The Board has handled several hundreds of charges of unfair labor practices filed with it since it began functioning last September. It has refused on a number of occasions to entertain charges, and on other occasions to proceed with hearings, because in its judgment no proof was offered that the activities of the industry in question were in, or directly affected, interstate commerce.

"In many cases where jurisdiction was assumed, the Board has obtained compliance with the Act to the satisfaction of both employers and their workers. Other industries under complaint have challenged the constitutional authority of the Board to act The Board is hopeful for an early determination of this issue."

PROMINENT BOSTON PEOPLE ORGANIZE TO COUNTERACT REVIVED ASSAULT UPON LABOR SINCE NRA WAS ABOLISHED

Meet With Ladies' Garment Workers' Officials and After Hearing Stories Concerning Low Wages, Long Working Hours and Other Abominable Conditions, Decide to Extend Cooperation.

The breakdown of the NRA and the revival of sweat-shop activities is becoming more and more a problem in the industry in this state. This was shown at a meeting of certain prominent citizens of Boston who are interested in promoting economic recovery. Appearing before the gathering at the Hotel Touraine were several officers of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, who gave striking testimony as to the inroads which sweat shop employers had made in their industry since the NRA became invalidated.

One of the first effects of this new legal status was the progressive movement of this class of industry away from the large and populous cities to small communities. In the latter environment, it was shown by the spokesmen for labor, every inducement had been held out to the unfair practices brand of manufacturer. Small towns or hamlets, "cheap in bor" and immune from attempts at organizing their underpaid employees were some of the inducements held out by the officials of small communities. These overtures were made with a view to easing the burden of local public work costs, now being borne heavily upon communities in proportion to their population.

Out of this meeting has grown an organization whose purpose it will be to take prompt and remedial steps to counteract this revived assault upon labor, and to organize the workers wherever it may be found possible. This newly formed committee will be headed by Prof. Lincoln Fairley, M. I. T., as chairman. Other officers include: Mrs. William Z. Ripley and Prof. Rupert Emerson of Harvard, vice-chairmen, with Miss Myrian Sieve, secretary.

Representatives of organized labor attending the meeting included Philip Kramer, vice-president of the I. L. G. W. U. and Organizers Jake Halperin and David Gingold.

Mr Kramer gave some pertinent facts and figures bearing upon the slashing of wages under the new set up. He mentioned some 2,500 workers recently employed in the cotton division at the rate of 48 and 48 a week, as against almost double that sum during the life of the NRA code. Subsequently, the hours had been lengthened from 35½ per week to 44 and 50 hours for the same period. Many manufacturers were said to be employing colored help as being cheaper than white labor.

Boston business men and merchants will be contacted and the facts presented to them. Results made by goods will be urged. At the same time, Commissioner of Labor James T. Moriarty and the State Department of Labor will be asked to investigate alleged violations of the State labor laws as affecting women and children in industry, and to see that proper prosecutions of such disregard of the law.

MEMBERS OF NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD EXPRESS OPINION THAT AAA DECISION DOES NOT AFFECT WAGNER ACT

Point Out That Agricultural Adjustment Act, While Based On General Welfare, Court Decided Production Control to Be Local—Wagner Act Gives Congress Power to Regulate Commerce Among States and Is Therefore in Line With Constitution.

The Supreme Court decision in the AAA case does not herald the knocking out of the Wagner National Labor Relations Act, the National Labor Relations Board said in a statement on the constitutionality of the act.

The Board pointed out that the AAA decision was based on the contention that the Agricultural Adjustment Act violated the general welfare clause of the Constitution. The board showed that the Labor Relations Act is based on the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce and expressed the opinion that the act is constitutional. It took a view similar to that recently expressed by Charlton Ogburn, general counsel of the American Federation of Labor, who said, in effect, that the AAA decision has no bearing on the constitutionality of the Wagner Act.

The NLRB said in its statement:

"Since the decision of the Supreme Court in the AAA case many inquiries as to the constitutional basis of the National Labor Relations Act have been made of the National Labor Relations Board, asking its view of the effect of the AAA decision on the NLRB. In our opinion, the National Labor Relations Act remains unaffected in any way by that decision.

"The Agricultural Adjustment Act was based on the general welfare clause of the Constitution. The Supreme Court, while upholding the power of Congress to act for the general welfare, held that the [illegible] production required to be local to the separate states and as such beyond the jurisdiction of the Federal government to control for welfare purposes.

"The National Labor Relations Act, on the other hand is based on the commerce clause that is giving the Congress the power to regulate commerce among the several states. There is control over industrial disputes only when they affect interstate commerce. The Act is designed to remove obstructions to commerce caused by labor disputes. It is limited to the regulation of labor practices affecting commerce. It is not concerned with the regulation of production, which is subject to state control. Thus, in contrast to the Agricultural Adjustment Act, the Labor Relations Act is limited to the regulation of matters which are subject to federal control under the commerce clause.

"The Agricultural Adjustment Act was based on the power to tax and spend for the general welfare. The National Labor Relations Act, on the other hand is based on the power to regulate interstate commerce. There is control over industrial disputes only when they affect interstate commerce

"WAR IS ON IN EARNEST; WORKERS MUST ORGANIZE FOR DEFENSE" - RIVIERE

United Textile Workers' Vice-President Declares "Capital, Not Labor, Made This Clear at Hearings on Ellenbogen Bill

Manufacturers Brought Forth Arguments Concerning Constitutionality and Clearly Indicated They Wanted No Legislation Which Would Prevent Them From Continuing Standards Which Have Wrecked the Industry and Exploited the Workers.

(Special to The Labor News)

Providence, R. I., February 13. — Confident that the Congressional Committee considering the National Textile Act, introduced by Representative Henry Ellenbogen of Pennsylvania, is sympathetic to the appeals of the more than a million mill workers for the enactment of salvation legislation, Vice-President Horace A. Riviere of the United Textile Workers of America says that if the textile operatives continue to use economic pressure on their representatives in the National legislative halls the workers will receive some form of beneficial legislation from Congress.

"The hearings," Vice-President Riviere said, "are over, but the work of the textile employes of this country has just begun. There is no question in my mind, after the hearings which I attended in Washington last week, that the committee is sympathetic to the crying need of national legislation to save the industry and its people.

"I don't say that we will get all the provisions of the Ellenbogen bill, but we will get some law, or at least we will have a measure presented on the floor of Congress. If we want this bill made law then it is up to the thousands of textile workers in America to rise en mass and show their Congressmen and United State Senators, by letters and telegrams, that such a law must pass."

HORACE A. RIVIERE

Continuing, he said: "There is no question that the war is one in earnest. This war is between capital and labor. And it was capital, not labor that made this clearly understood at the hearings. Now that this class warfare officially declared, there is nothing left for the textile operatives to do but unite for defense. And the greatest defense is organization and legislation.

"The manufacturers opposed the National Textile Act from the moment of its introduction program handled individually in the States while they continue to make profits and the workers pulled up to starvation.

"It would have been amusing if the picture were not so tragic to learn that from 1920 to 1935 wages were increased 43 per cent and the dividends to stockholders were listed as 70 per cent. It also would have been laughable if the workers were not made poverty stricken when the manufacturers explained that the big problem was the obsolete machinery. If it was broken that they surely failed to purchase modern equipment had not been used to pay for the floating of watered stock and handsome dividends."

In concluding Vice President Riviere said: "If the manufacturers are not so blind that they do not want to see, they will find the handwriting on the wall. The people are aroused and unless the manufacturers consent to a change, American workers may take a page from French history."

LABOR PARTY FAVORED

(Continued from Page 1)

cal unions, is operating under the non-partisan political policy of the American Federation of Labor, and until this policy has been changed or modified, there is little likelihood that sufficient support can be secured to make such a move effective.

While it was evident the convention was practically unanimous in reaffirming the policy of the U. T. W of A. for starting an independent political party. It was the concensus of opinion that to do this now would prove a set-back at the coming elections, and it was decided for the time being, at least, the organization would continue to operate under the non partisan political policy as enunciated by the A. F. of L.

The spirited discussion which ensued over political matters, gave your correspondent reason to believe that the workers in Maine are alert as they never were before, and that unprecedented activities are looked for this year.

The convention was well attended, nearly all affiliated organizations being represented. Some disappointment was expressed over Vice-President Horace A. Riviere's failure to attend the convention, as he was to be the principal speaker, but this was turned into sympathy when it was announced that he had been detained because of the death of his mother.

Some Reports Not So Good

While reports of a large number of delegates showed conditions to be good, and that relations with employers were pleasant, there were some who reported otherwise, and which gave reason to believe that additional activities are needed to straighten out a number of bad spots in mills located in various parts of the State.

This applies in particular to a number of mill owners who are attempting to chisel on wages, adding to the machine load, extending working hours, and in other ways attempting to destroy conditions established since the general strike.

This is causing not only considerable dissatisfaction among the workers, but among well-meaning mill operators, who see in this move on the part of these recalcitrants the possibility of plunging the industry into a death-grappling competitive state as it was prior to the establishment of the NRA.

Delegates at the convention expressed themselves apprehensively over this condition, and means were taken for calling this to the immediate attention of U. T. W. of A. officials.

Under terms agreed upon by manufacturers, through their national organizations when the NRA was abolished, mill owners were to continue the minimum wages, they agreed to operate on the 40-hour week plan and as a means to further provide for spreading employment among the greatest possible number, had agreed not to add to the machine load or permit the dreaded stretchout system.

Chiseling Manufacturers

According to reports of a number of delegates this agreement is being violated right and left by a large group of manufacturers, and drastic and immediate action is needed before it is permitted to extend to greater proportions.

Believing that insufficient time is afforded to properly conduct the affairs of the Council in a part-day session, it was voted to continue the present plan of making a full day of it, and to adjourn in time to attend the entertainment provided by the local union which acts as host to the Council.

The only guest speaker at the convention was Clarence R. Burgess, secretary of the Maine State Federation of Labor, who gave an outline of the proceedings of the meeting of the Executive Council, held in Bangor on January 12th.

The supper and dance which followed the convention was greatly enjoyed. The attendance was exceptionally large, and was voted a most successful occasion.

IF LEWIS DECIDES TO WALK

(Continued from Page 1)

its support to industrial unionism, it was distinctly against any movement opposed to the A. F. of L. or designed "to promote dualism".

Declaring that the Ladies' Garment Workers' Union has "a long record of undivided loyalty" to the "fundamental principles" of the A. F. of L., Dubinsky made it clear that he would have no part in any secessionist movement.

Must Stick to Text

"If any act or acts on the part of this committee prove contrary to the purposes originally outlined, they will be promptly corrected or the committee will be dissolved without the Executive Council having to do anything about it," Dubinsky said.

Deploring threats or ultimatums from either side of the controversy, President Max Zaritsky of the Millinery Workers, said:

"Such activities may satisfy the passions that have been aroused on one side or the other. But they will not satisfy the bulk of organized workers who want to preserve the labor movement and who feel that a way can be found to reconcile conflicting points of view without tearing asunder what it has taken generations to build. What is today needed more than ever is a strong American labor movement."

President Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers has taken a similar position.

Green Faces Miners

In a temperate but vigorous speech which lasted an hour and 45 minutes at the Miners, convention, President Green emphasized that there is a place within the Federation for both industrial and craft unions and that it is composed of both.

Referring to persons who "have sought to stir up dissension by appeals to passion rather than by appeals to reason," Mr. Green said:

"There are those outside our movement who look with pleasure upon every sign of division within our ranks. Let us leave off fighting among ourselves and fight the other fellow for a change."

"Division and confusion within the family of labor bring satisfaction only to those interests that would like to see the organized labor movement split on the rocks of dissension."

Self-Government Involved

Any member has a right to disagree with any policy of the A. F of L. and to fight to change it at conventions, but to set up an organization within the A. F. of L. to oppose its adopted policies is another matter, Green said.

"The question of self-government is involved—whether the working men and women of the nation possess the intelligence and courage to meet as a family, thresh out a policy and then go out on the economic field and fight to carry that policy through," he declared.

"We can practice good sportsmanship and bow to the will of the majority. Or we can practice a policy of dissension and be divided and conquered.

"The enemy wants us to be divided so we can be crushed. We want to keep our ranks united so we can face the foe."

PEACE AND WAR

(Continued from Page 1)

this. The bill remains on the calendar of the House.

"Teachers oath bills and other repressionary legislation pressed by the patriotic societies in various States have been instigated by the so-called patriotic condition and the Hearst papers. The passage of such legislation has thrown the country in a mad-house and steps toward fascism. If the Military Disaffection Bill is passed there would be no opportunity for free speech or a free press in the United States. Such legislation would be the signal for immediate and vigorous action on the part of every other forces now exploited and oppressed by the ruling class."

A member of the committee on Army and Navy of the House of Representatives stated that the bill was introduced by him at the request of his constituents. Such rules do not apply to civilian citizens. Also the peace and war powers are exclusively those of the Congress and not the Executive. In this fact lies the security of the peaceful and law abiding citizen both in time of peace and in time of war, she said.

The debate was made part of a satisfied discussion at the meeting of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor held in Bangor on January 12th.

JAMES WILSON NAMED

(Continued from Page 1)

tary and Economic Conference at London in 1933 and was made the first labor representative of the United States on the governing body of the International Labor Office in February, 1935.

He has been a member of the Public Works Administration labor board of review since 1933 and a member of the Works Progress Administration labor board of review from 1935 to the present time.

It was announced that Mr. Wilson's duties as executive assistant of the I. L. O. will permit him to spend a portion of each year in the United States.

Senator Wheeler Sees Curb On Supreme Court

Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana has become one of the group of Federal legislators who believe the action of the United States Supreme Court in holding the Agricultural Adjustment Law unconstitutional should result in restrictions on the Court's assumed authority to invalidate Federal statutes.

"There has been a great deal of talk about the sanctity of the Constitution," he said. "But I suggest that constitutions are made for men, not men for constitutions. On what does the Supreme Court base this claim to power. The Constitution does not expressly bestow on the Court authority to override legislative acts.

"I was not one of those who believed in the plan for curtailing production, but now I feel that if we are going to help the farmers we may have to amend the Constitution to do it."

AAA RULING SEEN FATTENING TOBACCO COMPANY'S PROFITS

New York City, Feb. 5 (I.N.S) — Liggett & Myers, third in size of the Big Four Tobacco companies, is figuring already on the amount that it will gain by the Supreme Court's decision in the AAA case.

Given under the handicap of the processing taxes of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, Liggett & Myers netted $16,856,606 last year. This, the company states, comes to about $4.91 a share; and the chief substance in L. & M. shares is just pure water. That is true of all the Big Four. But with the processing tax knocked out by the strenuous eloquence of Mr. Justice Owen Robert, Liggett & Myers expect to clear at least $7 per share, net profit, in 1936.

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ONLY A SPIRITUAL AWAKENING BY BOTH EMPLOYERS AND WAGE WORKERS WILL SOLVE UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM

Living Standards Not Determined by Automatic Machinery or Wages, But by Desires of People, Especially the Aims, Purposes and Ambitions of Employing Classes — So Long as Industrial Leaders Lack Faith or Are Selfishly Indifferent, Unemployment is Bound to Continue.

By ROGER W. BABSON, in "The New England Purchaser" for January.

People talk about the business cycle, but forget that two distinct business cycles are always in operation:

(1) The so-called Prosperity—Decline—Depression—Improvement Cycle which lasts ten or more years. We are now in the latter part, namely, the Improvement Period, of this cycle. All statistics show that business is getting better and should soon be back to normal. Unless something happens during the next two or three years I would suggest a period of real prosperity.

(2) The long tidal movements, which extend over about fifty years, during which time the standard of living is improving or declining. During the past 300 years America has passed through five of these cycles. This means that we have been five times when our political, economic and social system was temporarily threatened. I refer to the years 1680, 1730, 1795, 1858 and 1899. During the past few years we have been in the sixth of these downward movements when the standard of living has been declining. How long this downward movement will continue, no one can tell.

We can enjoy a period of business prosperity such as at the same time suffer under a declining standard of living. I can illustrate this by saying that we have great waves on the ocean whether the tide is coming in or going out. Therefore, as we are emerging from the business depression, it is up to us now to tackle the more fundamental problem of raising the standard of living. This is a spiritual rather than a political or economic problem. Let me give two or three examples.

11,500,000 Unemployed Today

All unemployment figures are unsatisfactory. The best expert guess is that there are unemployed today not 11,500,000. Notwithstanding the billions which have been spent and the many experiments tried there are as many unemployed today as when President Roosevelt was elected in 1932. On the other hand labor is getting back up to normal and in many instances up to the peak of 1929. Why this apparent inconsistency?

The answer is that the living standards of the people have not risen. Unemployment situation is far worse in 1935 than it was in 1929 because of the increase in the number of families.

Another reason why we have not had full employment is that we have built too many of only four persons. Today two people would be ample for each family. Therefore, we have more houses than we need. The result is that we have more labor than we need. The remaining every day. The simple fact is that we have enough of everything except houses. The desire for a home must first be aroused. Houses are determined by our spiritual motives rather than by material ones.

Declining Standards

Another illustration. Gambling is more rampant in this country today than ever before in its history. A billion dollars has changed hands this year in horse racing, dog racing, slot machines, etc. The liquor business and the number of questionable amusements have been booming as never before. This has increased the figures on bank clearings, and made us appear prosperous. This activity, however, has done nothing to improve the standard of living, but rather has tended to reduce the standard of living. Money which should have been spent for food, clothing, education, culture, etc., has been used for gambling, liquor, night clubs and the like. I am not preaching a sermon, I simply am emphasizing that we can have apparent business prosperity and at the same time a declining standard of living. I repeat that the standard of living line is determined by the desires of people, which in turn are determined by their spiritual attitudes. The basic question is, do people want education or do they want amusements? Do they want to work or do they prefer to gamble? Had they rather buy clothing or buy beer? These questions are of fundamental importance to sales executives and, as I answer, lie wholly with spiritual conditions.

Utilities Face Character Test

The utility officials have reached a point where their spiritual attitude may determine the fate of the utility industry. Congress has passed what I believe to be an unfair and unworkable law. Now, of course, this law is the law. Some companies, such as New England Power—are determined to obey it until it is either amended or declared upon by the Supreme Court. Other companies unfortunately appear to be unwilling to obey the law. Of course when one or two companies are defied in defying the law in order to bring it before the courts. If, however, the utilities generally combine for selfish reasons to ignore the fundamental principles of democracy, it may set back the industry for many years and further drag down the standard of living. Two blacks don't never made white. Two wrongs will never make right.

Better Times Ahead But —

I expect a business revival. The stock market will become more active with higher prices, a boom in real estate will follow, and even commodity prices should materially strengthen. I am, however, disturbed as to the unemployment situation. The activity of labor unions, recent social security legislation and other administration measures are driving many factorers more and more to automatic and other labor saving machinery. Some of this machinery has already been installed, but most of it is still in the blue-print stage. Its effect on unemployment will not be generally felt until 1936 or 1937. We economists preach that new inventions create new jobs for the old ones which they displace. We teach that automatic machinery has always been a factor since steam was harnessed 100 years ago and hence is not to be feared. Nevertheless, I have my fingers crossed when thinking of the next few years.

Only a spiritual awakening, on the part of both employers and wage workers, will truly solve this unemployment problem. The standard of living is not determined by automatic machinery or wages but by the desires of people, especially the aims, purposes and ambitions of the employing classes. So long as industrial leaders lack faith or are selfishly indifferent, unemployment will continue. Unemployment will disappear when a new generation comes along imbued with a spiritual creative desire to accomplish things and be of service. Tell me what people want, and I will tell you where they are going. Tell me whether employers pray, and I will tell you what they will accomplish. The standard of living is determined by dividing the amount of goods produced by the total population. America can increase its standard of living only by producing more and wasting less, only by working more and playing less.

Spiritual Awakening Needed

America is ruled by feelings not by figures. Big business can make goods cheap but it cannot make people buy. Notwithstanding our great technological inventions sales executives are helpless unless their savings in production costs are passed on to consumers and unless the consumers have a desire for your goods. All of this means that America is in need of great spiritual awakening. We may have panics and booms irrespective of spiritual conditions, but only a spiritual awakening will check the present decline in America's standard of living. The adoption of a 30-hour week and the destruction of crops will only delay the desired result. Dr. Townsend and Father Coughlin may put over their plans but they also will bring about a great decline in the standard of living.

Stock markets may be carried by low money rates, real estate activity may be stimulated by [illegible] but neither of these will build up the purchasing power of the people. Only a spiritual awakening will do this. Such an awakening will not occur overnight. It may be years in coming. It may be delayed by [illegible] but it will come. When it does, it will be a wonderful thing. Then we will have more than enough of everything. The struggle for existence will cease. Then we will be concerned in doing the things we should do because we want to do them. Then we will be concerned in helping others because we want to help them. Then we will be concerned in developing character because character is the only thing we can take with us when we leave this world. Then we will be concerned in developing character because character is the only thing we can take with us when we leave this world. Then we will be concerned in developing character because character is the only thing we can take with us when we leave this world.

Ed. Roger W. Babson is a great public man. For the most part his writings have been along business lines, but he has here written in such a broad and liberal manner as the above article infers.

The writer was greatly interested as it brought to mind an incident which occurred, soon after the war, when relating them existing conditions to an old friend in his native city.

This was in 1921, when, due to cancellation of war contracts, which caused bank failures, unemployment and a general breakdown in business. Notwithstanding this there was lavish spending on the part of those who had either saved money during wartime or who were then employed. Night clubs, as these were, in those days, flourished, gambling was at a high peak and general conditions were exceedingly bad.

"Don't worry, son," said the older man. "We'll have similar experiences shortly follow the Civil War. A serious depression occurred, when jobs were at a premium. Wages then averaged about $20 a week. Cotton sold at 50 cents per yard, boots were $20 a pair, flour was $20 a barrel, and all commodities in like proportion.

Everybody Unemployed

"As was the case during the World War, when everybody was 'licensed' to carry on as they pleased, morals were forgotten, religion was at its lowest ebb, and as I recall it, the country seemed on its way to perdition.

"But this did not last a great while. There was a stirring revival in religion, which spread throughout the land. It wasn't long before the people began to realize they were on the wrong track. We had no mass production industries in those days, but engaged in various industries there were stalwart men, whose God was not money. For the most part, these had risen from the ranks of workers. They were personally acquainted with their employes, and had their interests at heart. They, too, realized that a spiritual awakening was greatly needed and, with religious leaders, started a movement which in a comparatively short time became nation-wide.

"We are now going through a similar depression," he said, "and unless there is an immediate return of business, I look for a spiritual revival such as we had from 1867 to 1870, which resulted in bringing the people to a realization regarding its importance for their well-being and that of the nation.

Unlike 1867, when the depression lasted several years, the dark days of 1921 were over in a comparatively short time, and good times continued until 1929. Then came the crucial moment which is ably covering in Mr. Babson's article. Will history repeat itself? Have religious and business leaders become so permeated with that "laissez faire" attitude that they cannot see the necessity for a spiritual awakening?

With more than 11 millions of people unemployed, and with little hope for industrial improvement that will absorb any great numbers, is a matter that is worthy of something besides a passing thought.

Would that it were possible for every industrial leader, and every clergyman in the country to carefully read the Babson article. There's a lot of "meat" in it, and it is certain this would cause all to do a lot of thinking and planning.

BLACK 30-HOUR WEEK BILL HELD AS MOST VITAL STEP IN SOLVING PRESENT UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM

I. M. Ornburn, in Radio Address, Said If Black Bill Had Become Law in 1930 It Would Save Proven Great Help In Putting Idle to Work—Declares It is Only Way America Will Work Its Way Back to Better Times.

If, in 1930, Senator Black's 30-hour week bill had been passed by Congress and signed by the President, it would have done more to solve the problem of getting jobs for the eleven million workers still out of work than all the other legislation passed."

This was the keynote in an address of I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer, of the Labor Trades Department of the A. F. of L. Mr. Ornburn spoke over the Columbia Broadcasting system from Washington, D. C.

"We are passing into the seventh year of an economic depression which has never had its equal in all time," said Mr. Ornburn. "While we have been free from panics in certain business lines and cycles generally on the upgrade, we have not been able, even in the greatest employment period we have ever had, to put back to work more than seven million workers who are waiting for work. Even if we had jobs to keep their families in comfort according to the American standard of living.

Regular Jobs Imperative

Regular employment means increased purchasing power and only through work at decent wages for all in America pull itself out of this heartbreaking situation which still confronts over 40 million souls when we include the entire family with eleven million jobless workers who are willing to work.

"Senator Black's 30-hour week bill is the most constructive measure that has been advanced for the solution of unemployment. It will mean a six hour day and a five-day week. It is the paramount issue of the American Federation of Labor.

"It is hoped that everyone who is interested in the shorter work week program will write their Senators and Representatives and ask them to vote for the Black-Connery 30-hour week bill. Do not delay. Write today.

Only One Solution

"What is the solution of this gigantic problem of the man who wants a job? Are we going to continue gambling with fate for another seven years and past trust to luck as the die throws the number seven comes down, hoping that it will be only four more years instead of seven? No, we don't and Americans won't wait! We must solve this unemployment problem, and the only practical solution is the one which is championed by the American Federation of Labor, through the enactment of the Black 30-hour bill.

"When hours are shortened machinery will be a blessing instead of a curse. There will be more time for education and self-development—more time for spending the increased purchasing power which will accrue from shorter hours with the same wages. This is the path and the only path on which America will work its way back to better times for the average citizen."

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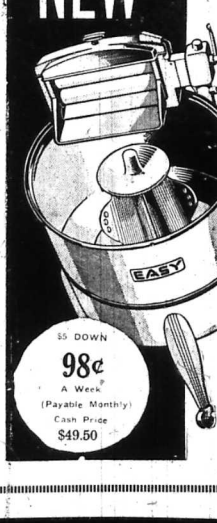

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